

COASTAL

COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



**IN
THE
FAST
LANE**



From the PRESIDENT



The Impact of Coastal

You may have heard or seen messages recently about the positive impacts of Coastal Carolina University on the surrounding communities and on the State of South Carolina. The latest economic research reveals that CCU impacts South Carolina to the tune of \$565.8 million annually—that equates to \$1.5 million every single day!

The graph on Page 38 illustrates the tremendous impact CCU exerts on the economy of our region. Of course, economics is only one part of the picture.

CCU has been so integral to the fortunes of our region for so long that we are in danger of taking it for granted. For that reason, it might prove instructive to try to imagine—as in the movie *It's a Wonderful Life*—what life here would be like without Coastal Carolina University.

Try to picture the Horry County-Grand Strand region if CCU had never been born. Imagine how K-12 education in the area would have been stunted for the past 60 years with no Spadoni College of Education to train our teachers in the latest innovative classroom methodology and provide them with graduate-level continuing studies.

Imagine our area without the scientific research that has contributed to the environmental quality of our waterways and marine life and to our knowledge of the intricate balance of ecosystems encompassing our ocean, our shoreline and our atmosphere.

Imagine our area without the business acumen supplied by our Wall College, which has furnished the Grand Strand region with incomparable talent in management, marketing, accounting, finance and entrepreneurship.

Imagine our area without the cultural vibrancy offered through the programs of our Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts—the plays, art exhibitions, musical concerts, public sculpture, community discussion forums, and lecture series featuring famous speakers.

Imagine our area without the sports programs that have meant so much to the development of countless student leaders. Imagine never having the thrill of watching your home university win the College World Series.

Imagine our area without the thousands of CCU alumni who are represented in every occupation and profession and who contribute immeasurably to the civic tapestry of our society—to our churches, our charitable funds and community organizations. Many who have graduated are now in positions with hiring authority, and they reach back to pull other alumni up with them, opening doors and providing networking opportunities.

When I reflect on Coastal's visionary founding fathers and mothers, I am in awe of how the seeds they planted have grown. Today, CCU's reach extends far beyond our immediate five-county region to serve the state, the nation and the globe with world-class educational experiences, cultural opportunities and economic strength. Coastal Carolina University is on the world map, more widely known than ever before. This is a university on the move. How truly fortunate we are to be a part of this dynamic Teal Nation!

David A. DeCenzo, *President*



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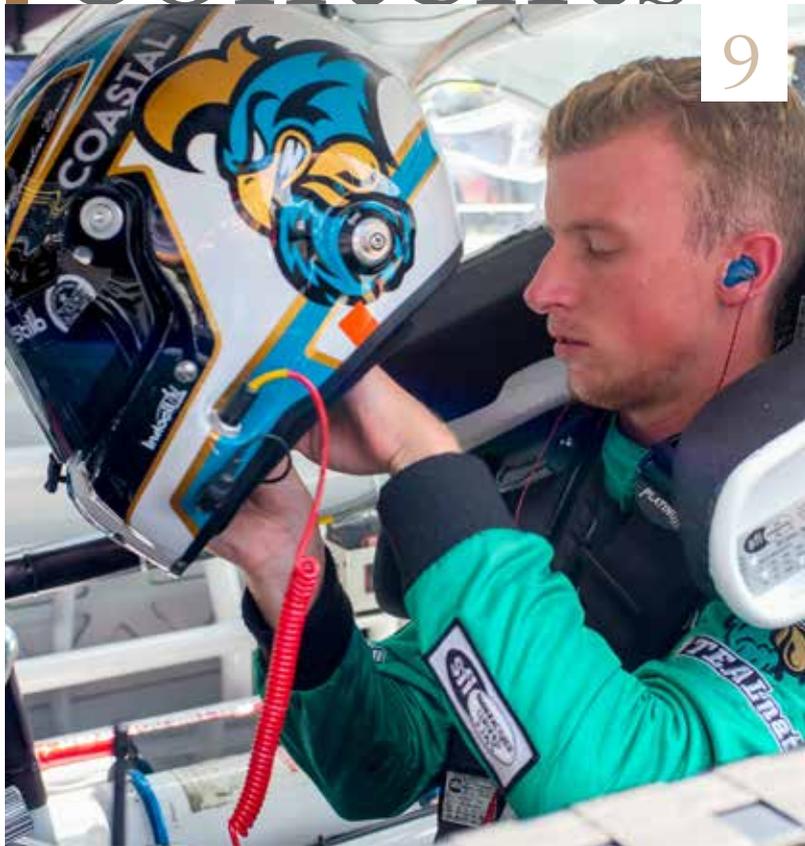
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COASTAL
COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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Brandon Brown, CCU student and NASCAR driver.



Of NOTE

CCU – No. 2 in U.S. rankings



CCU is ranked second in the Best Value category for Southern regional universities in the 2018 edition of the *U.S. News & World Report* “Best College” annual rankings.

Of the 64 universities in the Best Value category, the No. 2 ranking places CCU ahead of Converse College (10th), Appalachian State (11th), the Citadel (20th), Elon University (25th), Winthrop University (52nd) and the College of Charleston (61st). CCU ranked eighth in the Best Value category last year.

CCU tied for 52nd in the Best Regional Universities (South) category, up from 62nd in last year’s report. CCU also tied for 19th in the Top Public Schools category and 29th in the Best Colleges for Veterans category.

CCU has earned high rankings in the Best Value category consistently for the past five years. According to *U.S. News & World Report*, the Best Value calculation is based on a school’s academic quality and the net cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of need-based financial aid.

Gilman Scholar to study in Japan

Jagger Weatherspoon, a CCU history major and religious studies minor from Myrtle Beach, has been awarded a 2017 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study abroad in Japan this academic year.

He is the first CCU student to receive the scholarship, which seeks to strengthen intercultural understanding and prepare undergraduates for a global economy by increasing the number of American students who can study abroad.

He is studying Japanese and taking courses in religion and comparative culture at Osaka Gakuin University during the Fall 2017 semester.

First class of CCU’s Trustee Award recipients recognized



Taylor Barrett

Twenty 2017 Coastal Carolina University graduates received the \$5,000 bonus Board of Trustees Award for earning their bachelor’s degree in three years instead of the traditional four. This is the first class to complete the program.

CCU’s board of trustees established the award to encourage students to accelerate their academic experience, completing what would normally be a four-year degree in three years. The award is available to all first-time freshmen entering the University. All degrees at CCU require 120 credits to complete regardless of the time it takes to complete them.

Students who earned the Trustee Award are Olivia Barnhardt, Taylor Barrett, Robert Blenkle, Ashley Canter, Jalyn Carlson, Christopher Durand, Taylor Farrow, Austin Finley, Benjamin Flo, Allison Franklin, Marissa Green, Natalie Hoffman, Mariah Jardine, Clark Jesse, Alison Lane, Morgan Loucks, Emily Peal, Samantha Proulx, Matthew Rentz and Rachel Warner.

Barrett, who graduated in May 2017 with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, has a job teaching third-grade math and science at Academy of Hope Charter School in Conway. She used the money to buy supplies for her classroom and pay off her college loans.

Natalie Hoffman of Tabernacle, N.J., graduated with an MBA through the More in Four program, in which students can get a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in four years instead of five. With her \$5,000 award, she planned to pay down student loans.

New campus building opens

A major new campus building, the Academic Office and Classroom Building II, opened officially on Sept. 20. The new 52,000-square-foot building features 16 classrooms/labs, three study rooms for students, multiple open collaborative spaces for student study, and offices for more than 100 faculty and staff members from many departments, including ITS, computer



science, recreation and sport management, sociology, and philosophy and religion.

Located adjacent to the Wall College of Business, the building also includes the ITS server and demo room as well as an Aramark store.



Visit coastal.edu/magazine to view video of the event.

Coastal Eclipse

Hundreds of Coastal Carolina University students, faculty and staff members gathered on Prince Lawn Aug. 21, the first day of fall classes, to witness the great solar eclipse of 2017. Although it was overcast during the early part of the event leading up to the umbra, preventing visibility of the total eclipse, the clouds cleared out for a great view of the latter half. The remaining crowd cheered on beholding the historic celestial occurrence through the official CCU eclipse shades that were handed out by the thousands during the afternoon. Free Chauncey eclipse T-shirts were also distributed.

New dean of University College named



Sara Hottinger

Sara Hottinger became the new dean of University College at Coastal Carolina University in July. She is the second dean to lead the college, taking over from founding dean Nelljean Rice upon her retirement. University College administers the interdisciplinary studies program and the honors program. The college also assists first-year undeclared students in transitioning from high school.

Hottinger comes from Keene State College in New Hampshire, where she served as interim dean of the School of Arts and Humanities. She has a Ph.D. in feminist studies with concentrations in the history and philosophy of mathematics. She earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and women's studies from Beloit College in 1998.

"University College is home to innovative academic programs that support Coastal Carolina students as they navigate the University and explore their passions and interests," said Hottinger. "I am excited to join the University College faculty and staff in this important work and to think about how we can collectively develop ways to partner with other colleges and departments across campus to build upon our core programs, develop more interdisciplinary programs, and ensure that Coastal Carolina students continue to have the opportunity to engage in innovative, intellectual inquiry, leading to meaningful professional lives once they graduate."

Solar-charging umbrellas are popping up at CCU

Sustain Coastal, the initiative for making CCU an environmentally sustainable campus, purchased two new patio umbrellas to encourage students and faculty/staff to charge their electronic devices with clean, renewable energy.

Three weatherproofed USB ports are located in the base of each umbrella, which are powered by solar panels on the very top. Each Powersol umbrella can charge up to three mobile devices simultaneously. Sensors located in the charging ports know when mobile devices are fully charged to keep any energy from being wasted. An LED display indicates how much solar energy is currently stored for charging.

ZON Technology makes the Powersol umbrella solar charging stations. The company strives to create environmentally friendly products that reduce the carbon footprint on the environment and maintains that 15 percent of the energy used on the planet is from electronic devices like smart phones, tablets and computers. That number is expected to double by 2020.





CCU sculptors keeping kilns hot with new projects



Bryan Rupp (on top of scaffold) leads students in constructing this giant Chauncey that will greet visitors to Brooks Stadium.

The installation of the state-of-the-art sculpture equipment and facilities in Coastal Carolina University’s Department of Visual Arts has ushered in a new era of artistic activity on campus. Sculpture students are getting hands-on experience on projects that will be seen by thousands of visitors and residents.

In association with the City of Conway, CCU sculpting students created eight bronze animal figures for the Conway Critters project, a scavenger hunt designed to draw visitors to the historic downtown section of the city. Under the direction of Alexandra Knox of the CCU sculpture faculty, students Erin Ryan, Chris Kunk and Brittany Clark helped design and create figures such as Maggie the Squirrel, Gaston the Frog and Augustus the Alligator.

Also, a major new Chanticleer sculpture is under construction. The giant 12-foot mascot sculpture by CCU sculptor Bryan Rapp will greet visitors to Brooks Stadium at the S.C. 544 entrance. Students in Rapp’s ART 499 class are helping him with molding and casting the statue.

The new Chauncey sculpture will complement the one installed at the Chanticleer Drive entrance to the TD Sports Complex in 2015.

“With two entrances, one on S.C. 544 and one into the TD Sports Complex, there was a feeling that we needed a more visible Chauncey for fans entering the football stadium,” said Easton Selby, chair of CCU’s visual arts department. “The first Chauncey is slightly larger than life size and more interactive. The new guy will be larger and more intimidating.”



Augustus the Alligator is a new Conway resident.

Political maven Mary Matalin speaks at CCU

Political commentator Mary Matalin spoke at Wheelwright Auditorium Sept. 14 in conjunction with CCU's observance of Constitution Day. In her address on "Populism, Polemics and Polarization in 21st-Century Politics," she talked about getting back to first principles and the importance of employing precise language in political discourse.

"Understanding human nature requires understanding language," she said, referencing the founding fathers' deep knowledge of classical scholarship and their reliance on a common vocabulary. Now, as she sees it, "there is a proliferation of knowledge, but no wisdom. . . . We are subjected to so much information now, it's no wonder we're in a state of cognitive dissonance."

Matalin decried the sense of isolation that is exacerbated by today's technology, which "enables us to stay isolated from each other. It allows us only to Facebook with like-minded people, and insulates us from a diversity of ideas. There is no progress without interaction."

Despite the polarization and isolation that characterizes political life today, Matalin said she is optimistic about the future. A libertarian, she has faith that the younger generation will bring a different kind of thinking and problem-solving to the body politic.

Matalin is well-known for being the conservative half of the most famous bipartisan marriage in modern punditry. She amused the audience with a few dead-on impersonations of her husband James Carville and called him "the patron saint of arrested development."

The Constitution Day event was sponsored by CCU's Edgar Dyer Institute of Leadership and Public Policy.



Mary Matalin

CCU creates PSA campaign on local heroin crisis

With heroin use in the Grand Strand area increasing to epidemic levels, law enforcement officials in Horry County contacted CCU President David A. DeCenzo to request help with developing public service announcements (PSA) to raise community awareness about the situation.

During the spring and summer, CCU's Office of University Communication's video production team created a series of PSAs that were unveiled at a media briefing in September and are now running through area media outlets.

The effort on Coastal's part was led by Martha Hunn, associate vice president for University Communication, who developed a team of campus representatives and community leaders to build the project. CCU students under the guidance of Elizabeth Carter, associate director for alcohol and drug prevention services, conducted focus group research, bringing together a diverse pool of area parents, teens and civic leaders to help gauge the level of community awareness about the heroin crisis.

The focus group studies indicated that, while there is a broad recognition that a problem exists, the general public in the area is unaware of the magnitude of the epidemic (90 percent of all drug crimes in the county are heroin-related) and the widespread use of heroin across social and class lines.

A total of 18 PSAs were created, in 60-second, 30-second and 15-second formats. They put a human face and voice to the statistics by showing recovering addicts and their family members, law enforcement and emergency officials, civic leaders and addiction counselors, all talking directly into the camera about their personal experiences coping with this deadly local problem.



Participants in the PSA campaign include (left to right) Robert Edge, Krista Rosinski, Maggi Hocker, Noreen Beck, Susan Metallo, Phillip Thompson and Chris Hocker (not pictured: Michael Henry and Barbara Blain-Bellamy.)



PUBLISHED

The Retrofuturism of Cuteness

Edited by Jen Boyle and Wan-Chuan Kao

Punctum Books



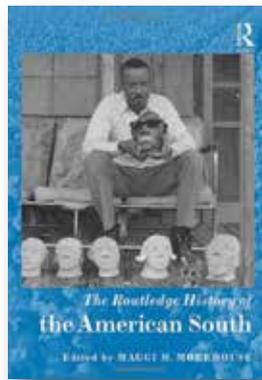
“Is it possible to conceive of a Hello Kitty Middle Ages or a Tickle Me Elmo Renaissance?” ask the editors of this collection of essays probing various aspects of the culture of cuteness. Jen Boyle, professor of English and director of CCU’s digital culture and design program, co-edited the book, which also includes contributions from faculty members Elizabeth Howie and Tripti Pillai. “Deploying cuteness as a mode of inquiry across time, this volume opens up unexpected lines of inquiry and unusual critical and creative aporias, from Christian asceticism, medieval cycle drama, and Shakespeare to manga, Bollywood, and Second Life.”

Routledge History of the American South

Edited by Maggi Morehouse

Routledge Press

The contents of this new book by Maggi Morehouse, the Burroughs Distinguished Professor of Southern History and Culture at CCU, indicate

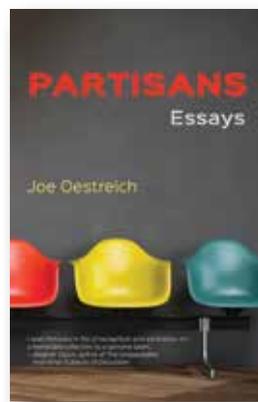


the wide range of scholarship in Southern studies, with chapters on politics, language, religion, music, food, architecture, film, literature and other subjects. The publisher’s note describes it as “valuable both as a dynamic introduction to Southern Studies and as an entry point into more recent research for those already familiar with the subfield ...offering a clear sense of the evolution and contours of Southern Studies.” In addition to Morehouse, contributors to the book include CCU faculty members Becky Childs, Eric Crawford and Daniel Cross Turner.

Partisans: Essays

By Joe Oestreich

Black Lawrence Press

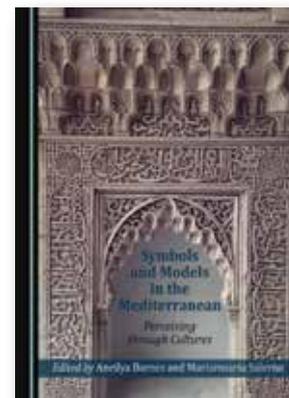


The essays in this collection by Joe Oestreich, chair of CCU’s Department of English, were written over a period of 10 years, 2006 to 2016. The pieces here range from his first published article, on rock ‘n’ roll, to the title essay, published last year in the journal *River Teeth*. According to Oestreich, the pieces have a loose thematic connection that is brought home in the “Partisans” essay, which explores how we try to fit the life we actually live into the life we imagine for ourselves. In a review of the book, author Steven Church writes, “...Oestreich piles his readers into a tour van and barrels unflinchingly down the highway into subjects like guilt and murder, race, privilege, youth, music, marriage, work and other deep territories of contemporary American life.”

Symbols and Models in the Mediterranean: Perceiving through Cultures

Edited by Aneilya Barnes and Mariarosaria Salerno

Cambridge Scholars Publishing

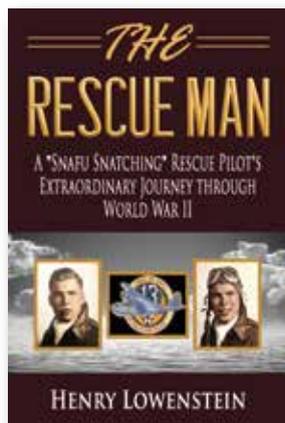


This volume, co-edited by Aneilya Barnes of CCU’s history faculty, is a compendium of essays that were presented

at the sixth International Conference of Mediterranean Worlds at the University of Calabria, Italy. According to the editors' introduction, the "central issues examined were the symbols, including signs, gestures, objects, animals, persons, etc., that embodied meanings deeply interconnected with the development of societies across the Mediterranean. Through such analyses of the symbolic from their respective (historical, political, archaeological, religious, economic, artistic, social, literary, and other) viewpoints, these scholars have illuminated the importance of both the tangible and intangible models that have served as cultural reproductions and imitations, marking and conditioning the lives of the Mediterranean people across time and place."

The Rescue Man

By Henry Lowenstein
Van Rye Publishing

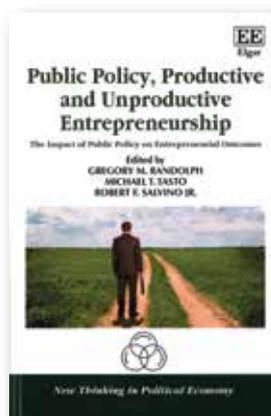


CCU business professor and former Wall College dean Henry Lowenstein was cleaning out his mother-in-law's garage when he came upon a sealed box that would change his life and bring closure to a 71-year-old mystery for two families. *Rescue Man* includes two stories: a biography of First Lieutenant Frank Philby "Bud" Hayes, a decorated World War II rescue pilot lost at sea at the end of war;

and a detective story in which Lowenstein uncovers the mystery surrounding the pilot's death. The book also tells the broader story of the emergency rescue squadrons of World War II and the PBY Catalina flying boats piloted by Hayes, who was the uncle of Lowenstein's wife. One chapter describes the little known but extremely consequential turf war between the U.S. Army Air Force and the U.S. Navy over which service would be responsible for rescue missions on the seas. As a result of the findings of the book, proceedings have begun through the Bring Our Heroes Home Act of 2017 to search for and recover the bodies of Hayes and two other crew members who were lost in the October 1945 crash.

Public Policy, Productive and Unproductive Entrepreneurship

By Gregory M. Randolph, Michael T. Tasto and Robert S. Salvino
Edward Elgar Publishing

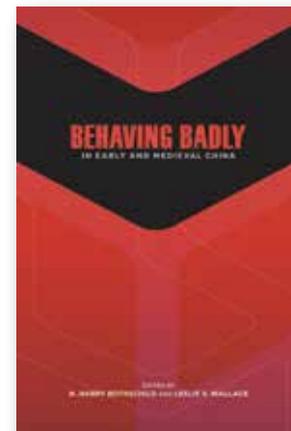


CCU economist Robert S. Salvino co-authored this study of how entrepreneurship is impacted by the influences of institutions, governments, economic freedom and morality. According to the introduction, "each chapter contains a rigorous analysis of the consequences of public policy and the effects of institutional decisions on the productivity of entrepreneurs." The goal

is to "help policymakers direct their efforts at creating a positive economic environment for entrepreneurs to flourish and for scholars to better understand the role policy plays on entrepreneurial activity." Michael Latta of the Wall College faculty co-wrote a chapter of the book with Salvino titled "The Economics of Entrepreneurship: To Inform an Economic and Moral Perspective."

Behaving Badly in Early and Medieval China

Edited by N. Harry Rothschild and Leslie V. Wallace
University of Hawaii Press



Leslie V. Wallace of CCU's visual arts faculty co-edited this anthology about, according to the editors' introduction, "a rogues' gallery of treacherous regicides, impious monks, cutthroat underlings, ill-bred offspring, and disloyal officials. It plumbs the dark matter of the human condition, placing front and center transgressive individuals and groups traditionally demonized by Confucian annalists and largely shunned by modern scholars. The work endeavors to apprehend the actions and motivations of these men and women, whose conduct deviated from normative social, cultural, and religious expectations."

Brundan Brown





IN THE FAST LANE

by Brent Reser

Marketing in higher education is changing at a fast pace. Capitalizing on prevailing technology and behavioral trends, universities are concentrating more and more on digital strategies to hit key audiences and attract the best students. While Coastal Carolina University has fully embraced new media, the search continues for other creative marketing avenues outside the digital realm. In 2015, CCU began a partnership with one of its own students to blaze a new path in college marketing.

Courtesy of Daylon Bear Photography



WITH COASTAL, WE PIONEERED HIGHER EDUCATION BREAKING INTO MOTORSPORTS.”

“My Pop-Pop had this little go-cart in his yard, and I would drive the thing for hours and hours until it ran out of gas. Then we would fill it back up and I would do it again.” That 6-year-old childhood moment, recalled recently by Coastal Carolina University student Brandon Brown, now 23, is the origin of his ascent to the second highest circuit in NASCAR.

From go-cart joyrides on his grandpa’s property, Brown, a senior communication major, has risen to racing vehicles capable of reaching 200 mph on some of the most iconic racetracks in America—and introducing CCU to a whole new audience.

Growing up in Woodbridge, Va., Brown began go-cart competition at 10 years old, and by the time he was 12 he was competing nationally. At 16, he switched to late model stock cars, racing at tracks in Virginia and North Carolina through his high school years. His father, Jerry Brown, recognizing his son’s talent, passion and long-term commitment, established a professional team to support his career, Brandonbilt Motorsports.

By 2015, when he transferred to CCU from Northern Virginia Community College, Brown was racing in the NASCAR World Camping Truck Series, having skipped the K&N (formerly Busch) Pro Series East, the traditional “next step” on the ladder for aspiring drivers.



Born to Run: No. 86 Chevrolet Silverado (above) introduced Chauncey to NASCAR.

However, despite the level Brown has reached at a young age, competing on racing’s biggest stage comes at a cost. Funding a team of up to 10 people, traveling to races and purchasing safety equipment barely scrape the surface of the financial obligations NASCAR drivers face. For Brown and the Brandonbilt brand to be competitive, they needed a sponsor. But it was easier said than done.

“For every ‘yes’ we would get a thousand ‘nos,’” says Brown, noting that the initial sponsors who did sign on could only offer minor assistance. “We were looking for that first title sponsor to really help us take off.”





Fanfare: Brandon Brown signs autographs.

Courtesy of Daylon Barr Photography





Strapping In: Brown prepares for a practice run.

Then one day, Bill Plate, CCU’s vice president for university communication, was scrolling through Twitter. While browsing tweets containing a CCU-specific hashtag, he saw something that immediately froze his thumbs.

“I happened to be on the couch on a Sunday morning, and I came across a NASCAR truck driver wearing a Chanticleer baseball cap giving a Chants Up,” says Plate. “I was baffled. Who was this NASCAR driver and why was he wearing a Chanticleer cap?”

After some research, Plate discovered that Brown had recently transferred to Coastal. A racing fan himself, Plate became acquainted with the inner workings of NASCAR on his first job out of college. His employer was a major sponsor of the circuit, giving Plate the chance to work behind the scenes at races and learn about the lucrative advertising and marketing possibilities afforded by NASCAR.



Too Tough to Tame: Brown finished well in the 2017 Xfinity Throwback Series at Darlington Raceway.

f NASCAR fans are loyal. They are loyal to the drivers, they are loyal to the brands who sponsor their favorite drivers.”

—William M. Plate Jr.
Vice President for University Communication

Plate felt that this was something that could benefit Coastal. “We need to be open to opportunities in markets we might have never considered before.”

Plate met with Brown the week after stumbling upon the tweet. “I wanted to find out if we could start a mutually beneficial relationship, primarily on social media,” Plate says. “But after finding out the type of person and brand ambassador that Brandon is, I knew there was potential for an even bigger opportunity.”

Plate felt the time was right to make a big move. Several of the world’s biggest brands are associated with NASCAR, but, except for the occasional single race sponsorship, higher education was largely absent. While many university administrators might shy away from shattering the mold, Plate developed a comprehensive sponsorship package, which Brown signed in April 2015.



Courtesy of Daylon Barr Photography

Driver Intro: Brandon Brown greets the crowds at Homestead - Miami Speedway.

With a sponsorship secured, Brown celebrated by notifying the general manager of Brandonbilt Motorsports. “I called my dad and said, ‘You are never going to believe this, but check your email.’”

Now wrapped in Coastal Carolina branding, Brown’s No. 86 Chevrolet Silverado truck immediately attracted the notice of television cameras and spectators. The attention seemed to inspire Brown. He raced well in numerous events, including a performance that amazed the NASCAR community when he finished in fourth place in the 2016 NextERA Energy Resources 250 at Daytona International Speedway.

“Coastal was the turning point for me,” says Brown. “It wasn’t necessarily the amount of money that CCU invested in the program, it was the support and presence that made the difference.” Brown says that Coastal’s involvement has helped to open the gate for other sponsors.

For Coastal, the benefits go far beyond having a brand ambassador at the biggest NASCAR events.

“It is no different than a billboard, except that this billboard moves up and down I-95,” Plate says, referring to the trailer marked with Coastal insignia that transports Brown’s vehicle along the East Coast to various NASCAR venues. “Then, on race day, it’s a billboard that goes 180 miles around a racetrack on national television. It is tremendous exposure.”

Brown’s career is on the rise. He jumped from the World Camping Truck Series to the Xfinity Series in 2016, racing on legendary tracks such as Bristol Motor Speedway and competing against drivers he used to watch from his living room. “I would get to these tracks and the only time I had raced on them before was in video games,” Brown confesses. “The first two seasons I was a little starstruck. You see these big-time racers who you used to watch on TV and now you are strapping in with them.”

Brown placed 20th in the Darlington Xfinity Series race during the 2017 Labor Day weekend. His performance was all the more impressive because the drivers who finished ahead of him were with cup-affiliated teams. Brown’s ultimate objective is to take one final, big step.





MY MAIN GOAL IS TO
MAKE A NASCAR CUP START.



Courtesy of Dayton Barr Photography



3,857

Facebook
followers

2,589

Twitter
followers



@brandonbrownrac

Twitter/
Instagram

4TH

Highest finish
to date



Brandon
Brown

Facebook



Brandon Brown

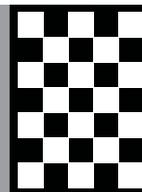
**13 YEARS
AS A RACER**

#90

Xfinity Series

HIGHEST SPEED

203 MPH



“My main goal is to make a NASCAR Cup start,” Brown says. He would also seize the opportunity to race a full season at either the Xfinity or Truck level. “My dream is to race for a living.”

But the vast majority of drivers aren’t that lucky. Even for those who do find sustained success, a racing career doesn’t last forever. Cognizant of these realities, Brown is a disciplined student working toward his degree in communication with a minor in marketing. Completing coursework can be challenging when it requires leaving campus early in the week to travel to races, but Brown has persevered. Thanks to his dedication toward his studies and professors who allow him to make up work when he has to miss classes, Brown is set to graduate in fall of 2018.

“Coastal has always helped me find success in everything I do, and you just don’t find that everywhere you go,” he says.

With Brown succeeding both in the classroom and on the race track, CCU’s investment is having an impact. Since Brown’s signing with CCU in 2015, other colleges and universities have sponsored drivers on the various NASCAR circuits. These agreements mirror CCU’s approach, whereby a university commits to the driver inside the car as opposed to a one-time logo splash on the outside of it.

In this new digital marketing era obsessed with impressions and click-through-rates, one institution was first to go all-in on a NASCAR driver.

“With Coastal, we pioneered higher education breaking into motorsports,” Brown says proudly, recognizing the chance that his University took on him. “CCU means everything to me.” ■

GO INSIDE THE CAR WITH 360° VIEW.

coastal.edu/magazine



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Bruce Brown



DARLINGTON · USA



Brown



A Coastal Career

by Krystin Dean

For more than four decades, beginning as a student in the early 1970s, **Pat Singleton-Young '75, '78** has been a vital advocate for student growth and multiculturalism at Coastal Carolina University—as well as an inspiration to hundreds of students.



LEARNING TO LEAD

Pat Singleton-Young never expected to become a first-generation college student at Coastal Carolina College, located 30 minutes down the road from her home in Murrells Inlet. A conversation between her father and early Coastal benefactor William A. Kimbel made it happen.

“My father worked at Brookgreen Gardens, near where the Kimbels lived, and somehow he got to meet and talk with Mr. Kimbel,” she said. “He said, ‘My daughter wants to go to college, but I don’t know how I can afford it.’ The next thing I know I’m being contacted by someone representing Mr. Kimbel.”

She submitted her application for the fall of 1971, was accepted, and immediately got a job in the Office of Student Activities. She also learned how to work the stick shift in the green Volkswagen Beetle her father gave her for the commute just two weeks before classes started.

“I didn’t think I would go to college because we were poor, so I didn’t really have a plan when I got there,” she said. “I just wanted to make sure my parents were proud of me.”

Her job helped her overcome her innately shy demeanor, and she began to take on leadership roles in organizations like the campus programming board, yearbook, newspaper and Student Government Association (SGA).

Promoting inclusion on campus has been a passion for Singleton-Young since she helped establish the University’s first African American organization, now called the African American Association, and planned a successful commemorative celebration.

“There was only a handful of black students, but we were very involved in a lot of different things,” she said. “It was sort of a small group of pioneers saying, ‘Hey, our skin’s darker, but we want the same things you want.’ My experience was easy once people got to know me for me.”

Singleton-Young earned a psychology degree in 1975 and moved directly into the master’s program in counselor education. She received a graduate assistantship—one of the first ever offered at Coastal—in the Office of Student Affairs. She was also the first graduate student to be named SGA president, though only for a short time.

“The constitution didn’t say the president had to be an undergraduate, so my little posse decided I was going to run,” she said. “In comes the new dean of student affairs, Dr. Ron Lackey, and one of the first things he has to do is tell me that he’s sorry but I can’t be president. But we tried!”

Her superiors took note of her tenacity, and she was offered the position of assistant director of student activities in 1979.



Student Leader: *Singleton flourished as a student at Coastal from 1971 to 1974. She was voted May Queen in the spring of 1973.*

The director left a year later, and she was promoted. At age 25, she was running a department.

“I never looked back,” she said. She was immediately tasked with creating the University’s first two-day Orientation program. “Here I was, this young African American female, and the people around the table were pretty much all white males. The dynamics were interesting, to say the least.”



SECOND MOM

Singleton-Young’s experiences equipped her to advise and guide students. Eugene Bellamy Jr. ’10 said she exudes humility, integrity and service before self.

“Mrs. Pat is the embodiment of CCU,” he said. “She believes in creating opportunities that encourage and empower young people to reach their greatest potential. She gave me several opportunities to lead, and she walked side by side with me to ensure that I enjoyed the process of growth. She challenged my way of thinking and helped me develop a holistic view to see the forest and the trees.”

Multicultural Student Services program assistant Bertha Fladger said it’s not uncommon for counseling sessions to extend past the allotted timeframe—or for the conversation to change course completely—as Singleton-Young seeks out each student’s story.

“She’s authentic. She really loves the students. They’re not just numbers to her. They have names, they have history,” said Fladger. “She takes the time to mentor them. It doesn’t matter who the student is or what their circumstances are.”

Many alumni refer to her as a “second mom.” Mark Sikes ’93 said she encouraged him to pursue two things: a career in student affairs—and his future wife, Trista Welsh Sikes ’96.



A Night to Remember: Pat Singleton-Young met Archbishop Desmond Tutu (left) when he spoke at Wheelwright Auditorium in 1999.

“Pat convinced me that Trista was the best thing that was ever going to happen in my life, so I owe my happiness to her,” said Sikes, who applies lessons learned from Singleton-Young in his position as associate dean of students at the College of William & Mary. “She taught me to focus on the student, to make sure we never lose sight of why we do the work we do.”

This student-focused approach has defined every role Singleton-Young has taken on through the years, ranging from academic adviser to assistant dean of student services. She developed the position of director of volunteer services; assisted in the expansion of the Office of Career Services; hired the University’s first psychiatrist as interim director of counseling and health services; and created “special interest housing” as interim director of residence life.

Singleton-Young’s creative disposition and sheer grit made her the go-to person for tasks like planning Coastal’s first Welcome Week in 2007. In six months, she developed a program that involved every department on campus.

“Everyone said it couldn’t happen,” she said with a knowing grin. “That’s happened a lot during my career.”

Debbie Conner, vice president for campus life and student

engagement, said Singleton-Young’s success stems from a temperament that’s defined by strength and selflessness. “If all young professionals could have a spoonful of her resiliency, it would serve them so well,” she said.

‘FIGHT FOR WHAT IS RIGHT’

Singleton-Young is best known for her role as director of the Office of Multicultural Student Services—a position she’s held in some form since the mid-1980s.

“Diversity and inclusion are a very emotional part of her job,” said Fladger. “Her desire is for everybody—all 10,000 students plus faculty, staff and administration—to see that all of our students need to be treated the same.”

Singleton-Young steadily broadened the scope of CCU’s diversity objectives, from planning programming for Black History Month, to creating an African American Celebration series, to organizing the annual Cultural Celebration. At one point, eight of the “Divine Nine” historically black fraternities and sororities were represented at CCU because she worked with community members to create chapters on campus. Today, the office’s initiatives span from the Leadership Challenge program,



Class Acts: Singer Gloria Gaynor (seated next to Pat Singleton-Young) came to CCU's campus in August 2015 to practice with the CCU gospel choir for the Legend's Concert at the Carolina Opry.

“She’s authentic. She really loves the students. They’re not just numbers to her. They have names, they have history.”

- Bertha Fladger

which recognizes academic skills and leadership potential in minority students, to the Students Navigating and Advising Peers (SNAP) mentoring program for first-year students.

Coastal’s SGA created the Patricia Singleton-Young Student Advocate Award and named her the first recipient in 2007. Former SGA president Janet Shokal ’07 called her mentor a “beacon of light” for many alumni.

“Her historical perspective, optimism and forward thinking are part of why CCU is such a special place that will always feel like home,” said Shokal. “She models how to fight for what is right, which is often hard and always worth it.”

Singleton-Young and her husband of 32 years, Freddie Young Jr., are the proud parents of two children: Ryan ’10, ’12, who earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from CCU and now works

as a music teacher and band director at Lakeview High School; and Hope, who recently earned her master’s degree in higher education student affairs from Florida State University.

Her children grew up on campus, and she cites Wheelwright Auditorium as her favorite spot because of her memories of watching them perform there during high school band clinics. She was a member of CCU’s Cultural Arts Committee when Wheelwright opened, and she also served as a commissioner for the South Carolina Arts Commission.

Another significant memory in connection with Wheelwright is her meeting with the legendary social rights activist Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who gave a speech there in 1999.

“Just before the event was about to begin, I was trying to arrange the stage and get the choir in place, but Archbishop Tutu was sitting



Friends and Mentors: *Pat Singleton-Young (right) with her assistant Bertha Fladger, program assistant for Multicultural Student Services.*

on the piano bench, quietly praying and gathering his thoughts before his address. Naturally, I didn't want to disturb him, but time was short, so at my request his assistant tapped on his shoulder. I told the archbishop I was sorry for interrupting his meditation. He just smiled, and we had our picture taken together."

Singleton-Young sings in her church's choir and always attends Coastal Carolina University's popular Gospel Sing Out event, which was recently renamed in her honor to raise funds for the Pat Singleton-Young Student Leadership Annual Scholarship that benefits students who have participated in multicultural programs and leadership activities.

Singleton-Young's imprint on CCU's multicultural direction is evident as Coastal prepares to hire its first chief diversity and inclusion officer.

"She's always pushing the conversation and moving us toward preparing for the next generation," said Conner. "With this new position, her work is coming full circle. That's been her hope for so long, and for her to actually see it come to fruition is a crowning achievement."

With retirement on the horizon, Singleton-Young often reflects on memorable moments from her 46 years on campus as a student and staff member. Some of her best memories are of commencements. She has attended dozens of ceremonies, but it's always a singular experience.

"Every time I see a student I know cross that stage, I have a flashback," she said, her eyes glistening. "The times you sit and talk and guide and encourage. That's got to be the best thing ever. I get choked up every time." ■

WHERE I AM TODAY

by Doug Bell



From the beginning, one of Coastal Carolina University's proudest traditions has been the personal attention that students receive from our dedicated faculty. Often, the inspiration provided by a special professor is a major and lasting resource for individual students long after they graduate. "If not for you, I wouldn't be where I am today" is a phrase professors commonly hear from alumni. Here are three alumni stories that prove the power of the personal connection.



GO FOR IT

Tabby Shelton '99 and Nelljean Rice



Leading by Example: *Nelljean Rice (left) visits her former student Tabby Shelton '99 at Fostering Hope, a resource center for foster children in downtown Conway.*

When Tabby Shelton got back her first paper in English 101, it had more red ink on it than black. She was worried.

“I had no confidence,” she recalls of her first days at Coastal Carolina University. “I didn’t have a good experience in high school, and I had convinced myself I wouldn’t succeed in college.” Her first paper confirmed her misgivings.

Shelton believes her pessimistic prophesy might have come true if her first English professor had not been Nelljean Rice. Staying after class to discuss her concerns, Shelton found in Rice a sympathetic and encouraging presence who would eventually become a vital mentor and a devoted friend.

Rice, who retired in June after 30 years as a CCU professor and the first dean of University College, says that she saw Shelton’s potential right away. “She was one of those students who always sits in the front row with eyes locked on you, captivated.”

That early interaction between the student and teacher began a relationship that Shelton credits with nurturing her development as a student and community leader.

Shelton, the founding director of Fostering Hope, a resource center in Conway for foster children, is originally from South Palm Beach, Fla. She met her husband, Rob Shelton '97, in an art class when they were 6 and 7 years old, respectively, although they didn’t become friends until they were both working in a pet store in their late teens. They married in 1994.

“We may be the only couple who ever traveled to Conway for a honeymoon,” says Shelton. One of the couple’s good friends was unable to attend the wedding and invited them to visit him at his home in Conway. During the visit, Rob struck up a conversation with CCU politics professor Richard Collin, who was working on his sailboat at the Conway Marina. Collin pitched Coastal and



Learning to Give: CCU student groups donated hundreds of backpacks filled with school supplies to Fostering Hope, the agency founded by Tabby Shelton '99.

offered to take the young newlyweds on a campus tour that afternoon.

“Rob came back wearing a Coastal sweatshirt,” Tabby laughs. The couple moved to Conway, and Rob enrolled in Fall 1994, earned a political science degree in three years, went on to law school and now practices in Myrtle Beach. He has been active in alumni affairs, serving as president of CCU’s Alumni Association.

Tabby started at CCU in 1997 as an undeclared major. After her fortuitous first encounter with Rice, she began to change her attitude about college and was soon participating in extracurricular activities. She decided to major in interdisciplinary studies and got involved in student media. While she was working as the editor of *The Chanticleer* student newspaper, she got the idea and led the campaign to start a student features magazine. When Shelton asked Rice for advice, she said “Go for it!” and agreed to be the faculty adviser.

The magazine, *Tempo*, was launched in the spring of 1999 and is still going strong. (Shelton says the name of the publication was chosen because she and two other student collaborators on the project—Brophy Ringdall and Kisha Grate—all drove Ford Tempos!) Rice served as *Tempo* adviser for many years, and has maintained friendships with many of the publication’s subsequent editors and staffers.

Shelton says that she has asked Rice for advice on every major decision in her life. When the Sheltons were looking for a

church home, Rice invited them to hers, St. Paul’s Episcopal in Conway, where they are now members. When Rice taught one of CCU’s first courses in women’s studies, Shelton took the class. Nelljean’s husband, the late CCU professor Paul Rice, became a mentor figure to Rob Shelton.

After graduating from CCU in 1999, Tabby worked for the City of Conway for a while and then for Horry County in emergency management. But in July 2004 she heard a sermon that challenged her.

“I had felt for a long time that I needed to be doing more,” she said. “The sermon was about the importance of helping others and not being consumed with your own desires and finances. I decided, ‘OK, this is the time. I’m going to do it.’”

She asked Rice’s advice about starting an agency to provide basic necessities for children in crisis situations.

“Go for it!”

By October, the organization had a building in downtown Conway, and by December, Fostering Hope had served its first clients. Rice helped Shelton write brochures promoting the agency. She has also led her University 110 honors classes in knitting lessons to make winter clothing for Fostering Hope clients.

Shelton’s focus on service has enriched her life in many ways. Fostering Hope serves 150 to 200 children a month who are in foster care or who are referred by the American Red Cross and other local organizations. These children have often suffered some form of physical, mental,

or emotional abuse or neglect. Fostering Hope provides basic necessities such as clothing, shoes and hygiene items, as well as toys, books, school supplies, homemade quilts and more. The organization provided 652 Christmas gifts last year, including 260 bicycles—many donated through charity drives led by CCU student organizations.

The Sheltons have adopted four children—Hayley, 24, twins Shane and Stewart, 19, and Rani, 12. Tabby volunteers for a local animal rescue, and one spring she found herself bottle-feeding 39 foster kittens. She is also an avid equestrian, having started horseback riding at age 3.

Before Rice retired in June, she organized a board of visitors for CCU’s University College, and Shelton was the first to join it. Rice intends to be active in retirement, teaching classes at CCU and making it a priority to volunteer for Fostering Hope.

Shelton believes that the key to a full life is getting involved, and she encourages Coastal Carolina University students to explore new opportunities.

“The University is not an island or a bubble,” she said. “Don’t stay in your room and play video games; get out and become a part of the larger arena. Life is not a dress rehearsal. There’s no way to discover where life is leading you if you don’t try.” It has made all the difference to Shelton, and on each step of her journey Rice has been there, advising her to “Go for it!”

OWN IT

Brent Whelan '98 and Paul Gayes

At Coastal Carolina University's spring commencement in 1998, a graduating marine science major decided to play a joke on his favorite professor.

Paul Gayes of the CCU science faculty had been chosen to be the faculty announcer at the ceremony that year. Following the usual procedure, each student in the line handed their name card to Gayes, and he read it out as they crossed the platform. This particular student took a pen, scratched out his name, and wrote down "Mr. Whale." He handed the card to Gayes, who gave him an "are you kidding?" grin and without missing a beat spoke out clearly: "Brent Gibson Whelan!"

"I couldn't believe it," says Whelan, still amazed 19 years later. "He had taken the time to learn our middle names!"

Whelan, now a submarine combat control logistics manager for the U.S. Navy near Washington, D.C., says that when he first arrived on campus as a freshman in 1993, he wasn't sure what Gayes and his other professors thought of him. He didn't look like a promising student, he recalls, with his sandals and his disheveled appearance.

"Dr. Gayes looked at me like, 'Oh, not another one.'" But Whelan found his niche in Coastal's marine science program. He had grown up in Elkton, Md., at the northern edge of the Chesapeake Bay. He spent his summers along the ocean and loved everything connected with it. He enrolled at Coastal, attracted by the Academic Common Market, which allows students in certain majors from selected states to pay in-state tuition.

Gayes taught Whelan's marine science 101 class, and the student was immediately impressed by the professor's command of the material.

"He had so much knowledge, and it was not from the book," says Whelan. "In fact, he didn't even use a book. It was obvious he had been there and done it all firsthand."

In his second year, Whelan was one of about 20 students who joined Gayes on research trips aboard the *Ferrel*, the 153-foot ship of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA), to study offshore sediment deposits for use in beach renourishment.

"Students were often on the *Ferrel* for days at time," says Gayes, who has headed CCU's Burroughs & Chapin Center for



Naval Affairs: Brent Whelan '98 is a submarine combat control logistics manager for the U.S. Navy. He is shown here at the museum of the Washington Navy Yard, which is located near his office.



Key to Success: CCU professor Paul Gayes' (left) resourceful approach to problem solving taught Brent Whelan '98 a valuable lesson.

Marine and Wetland Studies since 1989. Gayes estimates that, over the years, more than 500 CCU students sailed and studied on NOAA research ships. “They were not treated as students, but as staff, which fosters a sense of responsibility. It’s not like being in a class. They have a chance to contribute and make mistakes and learn from them. Brent thrived in that environment. He was very animated and outgoing and fun to be around.”

“To be 18 or 19 years old and doing research on a huge ship on the ocean, it was great,” says Whelan. He took as many of Gayes’ classes as he could. “It got to the point that I would look for his name on the registration form before I looked for the title of the class.”

In upper-level courses, which were often small classes of eight or 10 students, Whelan recalls that “Paul would just say, out of the blue, ‘Grab your gear,’ and we’d go down to the marsh to take core samples, waist-deep in mud.”

The thing about Gayes and his staff that amazed Whelan the most—and would have the greatest impact on his own career—was their resourcefulness.

“Dr. Gayes and his staff at the Center for Marine and Wetlands Studies,

particularly Neal Gielstra, never let lack of resources get in the way of creating what they needed to get the job done,” says Whelan. “They could take what was in front of them and build anything. Paul and Neal together were like MacGyver! Whether it was a generator or a special vibracore drill rig, whatever.”

After graduating, Whelan started full time with the Navy doing metrical analysis. Channeling Gayes’ ingenuity, Whelan did his job so well that he earned a series of promotions at a rapid rate.

“The reason I was able to rise so fast is because in CCU’s marine science program I had been taught to figure things out on my own. You look, you listen, you figure out what you have to, and you do it. Own it. I made my first job obsolete in six weeks. They immediately placed me in a higher position. Same thing happened. Because what Paul taught me is that you don’t accept the status quo. You make your own status quo.”

In his present job, Whelan is in charge of all integrated logistics in Navy submarines that relate to combat functions. This includes training and maintenance materials, procurement of parts and stowage plans. With subs deployed all

over the globe, the job often demands a high level of dexterity.

Gayes and Whelan keep up with each other mostly by email these days. When he gave a presentation in Washington recently, Gayes had a chance to have dinner and catch up with Whelan, whose job doesn’t allow him to get back to campus that often.

“I went to the first football game in 2003,” says Whelan. “It was eight years before I made another visit, and I literally got lost, the campus had grown so much!”

When they had dinner in Washington, Whelan went into great depth about his job with his mentor, who couldn’t be prouder of his former student.

“Brent is proud of his alma mater and keeps up with what’s going on,” says Gayes. “It really is gratifying to see students like Brent who had the heart, enthusiasm and motivation to find what they needed to fulfill their potential. Teal Nation is all about belonging to a culture that is bigger than yourself, taking ownership and pride in it, protecting it, supporting it. Seeing these kids succeed is the best part of my job.”

LIVING PROOF

D. Wyatt Henderson '98 and Linda Henderson



Wall College Icons: Former board of trustees chairman D. Wyatt Henderson '98 reminisces with his mentor, retired accounting professor Linda Henderson.

On May 20, 2017, at Springs Brooks Stadium, outgoing board of trustees chairman D. Wyatt Henderson threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the reigning national champions' last home game of the season. One of the people he specially invited to share the moment with him and his family was retired CCU professor Linda Henderson. Though they're not related, the two Hendersons share a bond that is in many ways like family.

Twenty-one years ago, in the summer of 1996, Wyatt Henderson walked into his first accounting class at Coastal Carolina University. "I remember that he sat in the top row, center left, of Room 322, one of the tiered classrooms in the Wall Building," says Linda Henderson. The class was Accounting 201, the introductory course she calls "baby accounting." She remembers being immediately impressed by Wyatt's confidence and talent—and his sense of humor.

Born in Greer, S.C., Wyatt was a nontraditional student who had a year of college under his belt when he began at CCU. He had started a family and was eager to complete his education, but he hadn't decided on a major. After he took another accounting class in the second summer session, Linda gave him some advice.

"She convinced me that I should major in accounting," he recalls. "She said she would help me all she could. She already had a full advising load but said she would take me on."

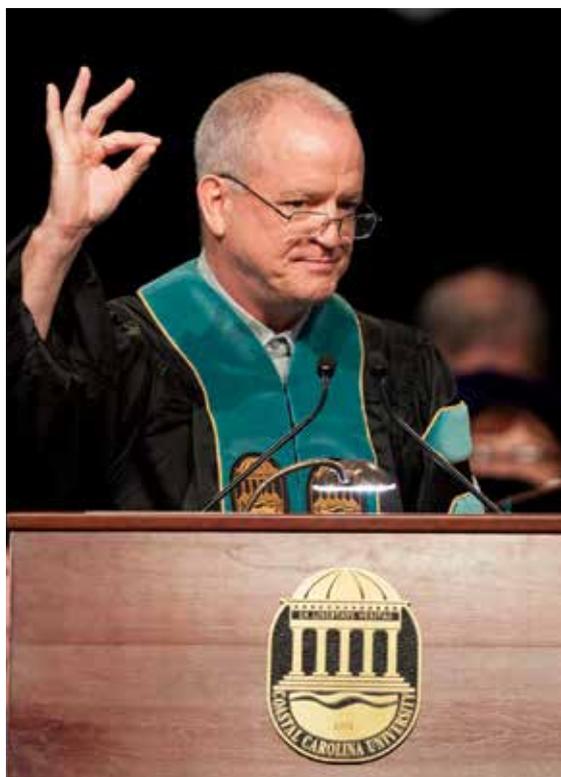
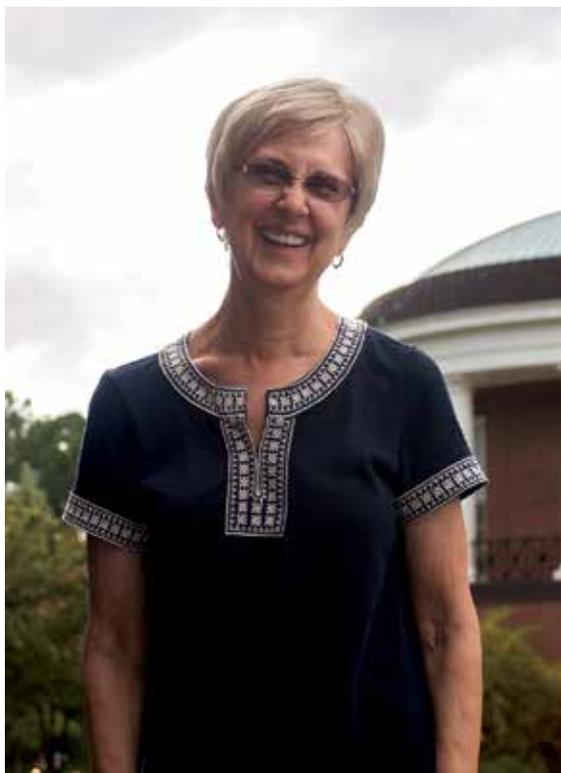
He took her advice and graduated in two years. As a student, he served on the advisory board for the first accreditation of the

E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration by AACSB International - the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. During his final year, he was president of the Accounting Club, which he helped revive from a state of dormancy.

"I remember the speech he gave at a club meeting that was held at our home on the river," Linda recalls. "The leadership skills that he would later apply with such effectiveness as board of trustees chairman were evident even back then."

"People ask me, 'how did you become an accountant?' and I say 'because it was the only class I got A's in!'" Wyatt laughs. "But the truth is that everyone who's successful can point to someone along the path who helped them. Accounting students during my time at CCU were lucky to have faculty mentors like Linda, Greg Krippel and Jim Eason who were always accessible and willing to help. But it really clicked with Linda and me. If it weren't for Linda Henderson, I would not be where I am today. I would not be an accountant. That's the level of influence and support she offered to me."

Linda Roddy Henderson grew up in Asbury Park, N.J., and earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in Spanish before obtaining her MBA and DBA degrees from Louisiana Tech. She met her husband, Latin America scholar Jim Henderson, in a literacy training class. They were married in Colombia, South America, where they were both working with the Peace Corps. Linda worked in the tax department of Pricewaterhouse in Bogotá



Where Credit Is Due: *“If it wasn’t for Linda Henderson, I would not be where I am today,” says D. Wyatt Henderson ’98, shown at a CCU commencement ceremony.*

before she and Jim joined the CCU faculty in 1986.

After graduating in 1998, Wyatt went to work at the Greenville office of the international accounting firm Deloitte & Touche. Almost immediately, according to Linda, he began finding ways to give back to his alma mater. He and his wife Stacy provided funding to begin a chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, the national honor society for financial information students and professionals, and he established a scholarship in memory of his grandfather, Cecil H. Black, to aid students interested in becoming public accountants.

“At that time, there was a mindset at the bigger accounting firms against recruiting students from small colleges,” says Wyatt. “Our scholarship has established a pathway to help interested Coastal accounting graduates get in the door of those larger companies.”

Linda also helped facilitate Wyatt’s periodic visits to accounting classes. “He spoke to students, giving them valuable advice for starting their careers,” Linda says. “He talked to them about interviewing and résumés. And some of the students were hired by Deloitte’s Greenville office where he worked.”

In 2000, Wyatt started his own full-service CPA firm, Henderson Accounting, in Greer. He was elected to CCU’s board of trustees in 2009. Soon after, he and Stacy spent a weekend with CCU President David DeCenzo and his wife Terri, discussing the direction of Coastal’s future.

“I learned about Dave’s vision, which included expanding Coastal’s physical footprint, establishing our first Ph.D. program, and moving football to the FBS level—a development that will boost academics as much as athletics because of the higher profile we will achieve through our inclusion in the Sun Belt Conference.”

Wyatt was elected chairman of the board in 2011 and served for six years. “He was a smart, gutsy leader,” says Linda. “He really gave his all, and he never even accepted reimbursement for all the traveling he did.”

As chairman, Wyatt says that “the primary consideration in every decision the board made during my tenure was the cost of tuition.” He is proud of the University’s fiscal record during his term as chair. In 2014, he led a debt refinance plan for the purchase of the University Place residence facility that will keep student housing fees at the same rate with no increase for the foreseeable future. Thanks to careful management and factoring in the cost of inflation, Wyatt says that student costs actually decreased by about \$1,500 over the six years of his tenure. He also points out that CCU was the only university in the state that didn’t furlough any employees during the economic downturn in the last decade.

Trusting her judgment, Wyatt consulted Linda on several matters while he was board chairman. “It was her advice that stopped one measure that might have had an adverse impact,” he says.

On May 5, 2017, at his last meeting as chairman, the board of trustees surprised Wyatt with the announcement that CCU’s accounting program was officially renamed the D. Wyatt Henderson Department of Accounting.

Looking back on his long association with Coastal, beginning with the day he walked into Wall 322, Wyatt observes, “You need two things from faculty: time and attention. These are the things that Linda Henderson gave me. If you get these two things and make proper use of them, you will be successful. I am living proof.” ■



SENED IN THE CLOWN

**INSPIRED BY HIS MENTOR PATCH ADAMS,
CCU THEATRE PROFESSOR BEN SOTA
PRACTICES THE ART OF COMPASSIONATE
CARE THEATER.**

By Mona Prufer

M

aking people laugh can be a serious matter. Ben Sota of Coastal Carolina University's theatre faculty is a veteran clown who traveled to Guatemala earlier this year for an unusual spring break.

For eight days in March, Sota was one of a troupe of about 30 clowns who took part in his friend Patch Adams' 18th annual Alternative Spring Break trip to Guatemala City, where they performed for sick children, the disabled, the elderly and others with serious handicaps and illnesses.

Complete with red nose, checkered vest and six-foot unicycle, Sota performed at hospitals, clinics, orphanages, nursing homes and psychiatric facilities throughout the country.

"We performed for more than 500 kids with cerebral palsy and Down syndrome, and oh, they were the best audience," says Sota. "There was so much joy!"

Traveling by bus from town to town, the Patch Adams troupe partnered with a Guatemalan volunteer organization called Fabrica de Sonrisas (Factory of Smilemakers). The trip offered an opportunity for Sota to put into practice an approach to theater that he has been developing most of his professional life—an approach that Adams pioneered.

"In traditional theater, the audience watches the performer on stage," says Sota, who heads up the physical theatre track in Coastal's BFA program, the only program of its kind in the country. "But in compassionate care theater, there is a reversal of

roles. The sick person becomes the performer. You put yourself in their body; you focus on what interests them. It's a shift of focus that's really a lesson in empathy."

In Guatemala, Sota played tag on his unicycle with children who had survived an orphanage fire. He used his clowning skills to encourage a handicapped child to walk. He brought smiles and laughter to terminally ill dialysis patients.

The weeklong trip was funded by a CCU professional enhancement grant. Sota's goal is to explore the intersection of theater, health care and social justice in ways that celebrate the "personhood" of each individual, regardless of physical or cognitive limitations.

"The work creates connectivity, lightness and joy in centers where sadness, trauma and boredom often reside," he says.

Sota says that much of the energy and the laughter in Guatemala was supplied by Adams. A legend in the concept of humor and play as major components in the healing arts, Adams founded the nonprofit Gesundheit! Institute in 1971 to further his ideas about holistic health care. He was the subject of the eponymous 1998 film starring Robin Williams that made him, and his philosophy, world famous.

"The movie doesn't do him justice," says Sota. "Patch built a school in Guatemala City and is raising funds for two more floors. He doesn't stop. At the dialysis center, he made a contest out of which patient had the smelliest feet. He even made a stop at a fast food place an event, entertaining the employees with gags. For Patch, the clown is an outside-the-box entity of compassion and love—love in its purest form, love toward community, toward health and healing."

The Best Medicine: *Legendary clown/physician Patch Adams (right) and CCU's Ben Sota (center) entertain patients at a hospital in Guatemala City.*





Commencing: This group of BFA physical theatre students graduated in May 2017. Ben Sota is fifth from the right.

(Left) Ben Sota practices compassionate clowning at a Guatemalan orphanage.

EDUCATION OF A CLOWN

Sota grew up in Pittsburgh in a household that nurtured creativity and the arts. His parents were musicians, and his grandfather was a talented amateur circus enthusiast who taught 12-year-old Sota the basics—trapeze arts, juggling seven balls, riding a unicycle. Although he started out as an architecture major, he knew that his true calling was to perform. He began writing and producing shows that incorporated the minimalist, European style of clowning that interested him.

Sota met Patch Adams for the first time in the late 1990s when they were both instructors at Camp Winnarainbow, the performance arts camp in northern California founded by the social activist and comic Wavy Gravy. As director of aeriels, Sota taught young people skills like flying the trapeze and walking the tight wire.

“Patch would come every summer and teach how to use circus performance to heal,” says Sota. “There were kids from broken families, kids whose dads had HIV, kids in gangs. He was using performance to heal broken families.”

In 2002, Sota started his own show, the Zany Umbrella Circus. He traveled the country, pitching his tent at parks and fairs. Based partly on the ideals of the traveling Chautauqua schools of the early 1900s, Sota’s circus has always emphasized education as part of its mission.

Beginning in the mid 2000s, the Zany Umbrella ensemble was much in demand. Sota and his troupe performed at the White



On the Road with Patch: Ben Sota (left) and other compassionate clowns traveled by bus to hospitals, orphanages and care facilities in Guatemala with the famous Patch Adams (center).

House for the 2005 Congressional Picnic and at Central Park’s Summer Stage. They traveled to post-Katrina New Orleans in 2006 to provide comic relief to the stressed survivors, and to war-torn Kabul, Afghanistan, in 2007 to clown for children there. The circus has also performed in Jordan, Ethiopia, Italy and Hawaii.

In the midst of all this clowning, Sota did take time out to earn a few degrees. He earned a BFA from the University of Pittsburgh and won a Jacob K. Javits Fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education that enabled him to pursue two MFA degrees—one in directing from the University of Hawaii and one in physical theatre from the Accademia dell’Arte in Tuscany, Italy. CCU’s Department of Theatre has a longstanding academic partnership with the Accademia in Italy, which is how Sota made the connection to Coastal. He joined the faculty in 2014.

Now he is intent on training the next generation of physical theatre performers and drawing their attention to the special opportunity they have to deliver social justice and compassionate care.

“The clown exists in every culture of the world,” says Sota. “With clowns, normal rules of social interaction are suspended;

clowns can just do and be. There is a tremendous power in this, because it allows them the latitude to question anything and everything. There’s an old clown proverb—the shortest distance between two points is laughter.”

Already the graduates of CCU’s physical theatre program are making their mark. Peter Seifarth ’17 is conducting research on theater in Nepal during the 2017-2018 academic year as Coastal’s first student Fulbright scholar. Stephen Craig ’14 worked for Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus until it closed in May 2017.

Sota is now planning to form the first university Compassionate Care in Theatre (CCIT) group in the United States this academic year, giving students the opportunity to explore Sota’s performance model in area care facilities. His greatest hope is that his students might have the opportunity to experience and work with Patch Adams, who is now in his 70s. Sota is working toward taking a group of students to Adams’ spring event in Guatemala in 2018.

“This would be a wonderful way to pass the torch on to the next generation,” he said. “I know that Patch has reaffirmed what is important in my life and how I should be spending it.” ■



World Artists Experience: In September 2017, Ben Sota and a group of CCU physical theatre students traveled to Washington, D.C., to perform at the Italian Embassy as part of the World Artists Experience, an international organization dedicated to bridging culture and understanding. Top picture (left to right): Ben Sota, Ivan Jermy, Ashton Harris, Korilyn Hendricks, Sydney Copland-Goodman.

Class Clowns: Patch Adams and Ben Sota at a Guatemalan nursing home.



AIR MAIL

A Postcard from PATCH

In preparing this article, Ben Sota encouraged us to contact Patch Adams for a quote. But he warned that Patch doesn't do anything in the conventional manner. He doesn't do email, Facebook or Twitter. He doesn't even do the telephone! He responds only to letters sent to him through the mail. But, Sota promised, he answers every letter he receives.

So, in due course, a Russian postcard arrived in CCU's Office of University Communication. Every centimeter was covered in Patch's small, craggy handwriting. Here is a sample of the contents:

"Many new clowns come on our clown trips and get lots of experience... We have a Guatemalan annual trip every March. Yes, I've gone on all Gesundheit! clown trips for over 30 years, except two. I do the clowning every day for 54 years. I clowned in 82 countries. It is my heart and soul, and I love to be naughty. I first clowned when I was a youth, 8 or 9, as a weird, nerdy, dweeb, dork, sissy boy who got bullied lots. I found out if you make the bully laugh, they don't hit the fool. Come play!"



Of INTEREST

COASTAL IMPACT



A LOOK AT THE MAJOR ECONOMIC IMPACT COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY HAS ON THE ECONOMY OF OUR REGION AND STATE.



TOTAL TEAL:



\$565.8 MILLION

CCU's total economic impact in the state of SOUTH CAROLINA for 2016.

A DAY IN TEAL NATION:

\$1.5 MILLION

CCU's economic impact PER DAY in SOUTH CAROLINA for 2016



BUILDING BOOM:



206 JOBS

were directly associated with CCU building projects in 2016.



\$45 MILLION

Economic impact of CCU's construction projects in 2016.



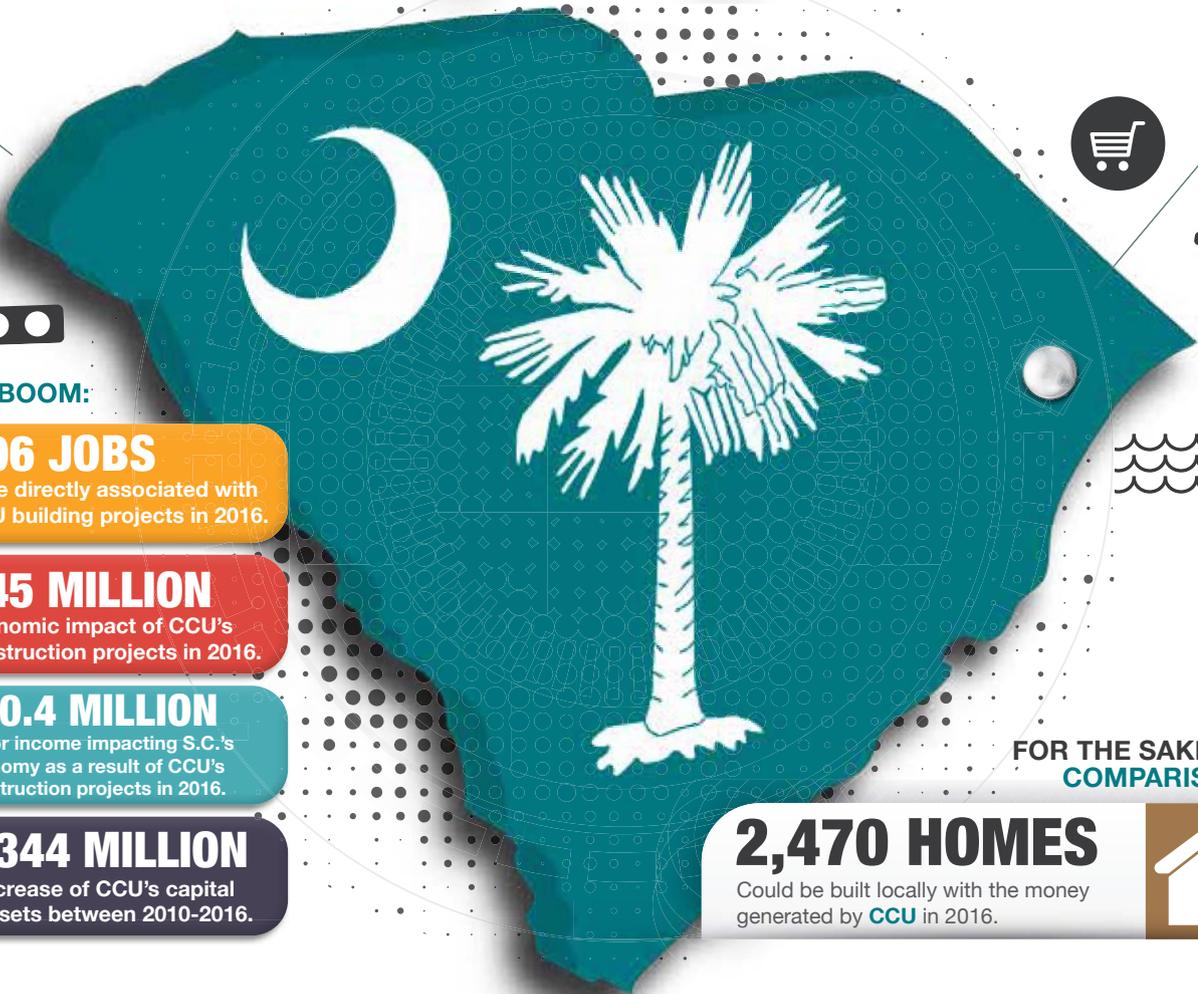
\$10.4 MILLION

Labor income impacting S.C.'s economy as a result of CCU's construction projects in 2016.



\$344 MILLION

Increase of CCU's capital assets between 2010-2016.



FOR THE SAKE OF COMPARISON:

2,470 HOMES

Could be built locally with the money generated by CCU in 2016.



BY THE NUMBERS:



Student spending resulted in an economic impact of **\$161 MILLION** in 2016, creating **1,011 JOBS** and **\$30.4 MILLION** in labor income.

RIPPLE EFFECT:



The impact of spending on the state economy by visitors associated with **CCU** students was approximately **\$6.1 MILLION**. The total impact of this spending includes **\$8.5 MILLION** in output, **103 JOBS** and **\$2.75 MILLION** in labor income.

THE BUCK STARTS HERE:



Each **\$1** of direct spending from **CCU** results in another **\$0.82** spent outside the University in the state economy.

CAMPUS VISITS:



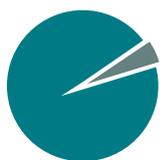
Potential students who travel to **CCU** with their parents for an initial campus tour spend an average of **\$240 PER DAY**.

ON vs. OFF:



On-campus students spent an estimated **\$43.8 MILLION** in the state economy in 2016, and off-campus students spent approximately **\$98 MILLION**.

DOING MORE WITH LESS:



CCU receives less than **6%** of its revenue from the state, yet has **doubled its noncapital revenue** in the last decade.



In **2007**, the state appropriated **\$16.2 MILLION** to **CCU's** budget. In **2017**, the appropriation was **\$12 MILLION**.



The source for these figures is *The Economic Impact of Coastal Carolina University on the South Carolina and Grand Strand Economics* released in June 2017 by Robert Salvino, Ph.D., and Trevor Tarleton, MBA, and the report on *Coastal Carolina Summer Orientations Impact*. Salvino is CCU's research economist and associate director of the Grant Center for Real Estate and Economic Development. Tarleton is the research assistant of the Grant Center. Salvino provides economic analysis for various industries, nonprofit organizations and government agencies. He has most recently been working with members of the real estate industry in the coastal region of South Carolina to develop new programs in commercial and investment real estate for the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration and for industry professionals. His research has been published in the *Review of Law and Economics*, *Applied Economics*, *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy* and other journals and books.

ORIENTATION:

Families here for a **Summer Orientation** weekend contribute approximately **\$788,000** over a **two-day period**. Many families extend their stay for a summer vacation.





CCU SOCIAL

**REAL TEAL
ADVICE**
from alumni



[SOCIAL MEDIA]

@CCUchanticleers 

/CoastalCarolinaUniversity 

@CCUchanticleers 

@CCUChanticleers

Old media and new media mixed it up in our 2017 summer social media campaign. **Real Teal Advice** tasked alumni with serving up their best advice to Coastal students. On specially designed cards, participants wrote words of wisdom to current Chanticleers about how to maximize their time at CCU. Here are a few of the submissions as seen on our Facebook page.



Erin Ellis '17
Myrtle Beach, S.C.



Dear CCU students,

In order to have a great and fulfilling experience while on campus, you should try your hardest to find a group of friends. Take any and all opportunities to network. Meeting many new and diverse students is an opportunity to learn from one another and form many lifelong friendships. Also, everything you do today will impact you tomorrow, so be sure that you make only positive choices. Surround yourself with other positive people and make many memories while you are there.



Adrianna Seals '17
Myrtle Beach, S.C.



Dear Current and Future Chanticleers,

First, congrats on your journey as a member of Teal Nation! The best advice I can give you is simple...listen to yourself! Listen to your intuition—to your gut. This is important! Your mind picks up on things that might not be good for you. So whether you need to decide between studying or going out with your friends, take a moment and think. Which one feels like your best option? That goes for all things you do and decisions you will make. Trust me—you will find that you are happiest when you stay absolutely true to yourself. That was the key to my success during my time as a Chanticleer!



Jessica Henson '05
Union, Ky.



Dear CCU Chanticleers,

The best way to maximize your time at Coastal is to spend it on campus. This can be achieved in so many different ways, whether it is having a job on campus, living in the residence halls, being involved in student activities, attending shows and productions, cheering at sporting events or even just hanging out between classes. I promise that you will still have plenty of time to go to the beach! When you spend your time on campus, the people around you become family, and you truly feel like you are a part of a special community. This can make your experience a memorable one that you will cherish for the rest of your life. I know I do!



Santuan Stanley '12
Myrtle Beach, S.C.



Dear CCU Students,

First off, welcome to the Chanticleer family! Second, enjoy every minute of college. You will learn so much not only from your professors but also from your peers and surroundings as well. I enjoyed every minute at Coastal, and it has prepared me to be successful today. Join organizations and mingle with people who will challenge you to make a difference. Wear the school colors proudly, and let the world know where the best university is. Chants up!



Shawn Vinju '00
New Orleans, La.



Dear Current and Future Chanticleers,

Welcome to Chant Nation! You are now a part of a proud and rising university. Make these the best years of your life. Take advantage of everything Coastal Carolina offers. Join a club, join a team or take a class that challenges you. When you graduate from CCU, you will have made lifelong friends and grown as a person. Chants up!



Ashley McCleary '11
Chesapeake Beach, Md.



Dear Future/Fellow Chanticleers,

Embrace your university and all that it has to offer. Also, remember to embrace yourself as an individual on campus. Coastal taught me to be a lifelong learner, not just in the classroom. My advice: Get out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself to explore what CCU has to offer. Make friends in other majors and get rowdy at an athletic event even if you don't follow sports. Find that 'artistic' side of you that you never thought existed by going to a CCU show/musical/art gallery. Get to know your professors, even Public Safety (for positive reasons!), because you never know where their knowledge or connections might take you. Most importantly, always remember CINO!





TEAL & BRONZE

COASTAL RISING:

BROOKS STADIUM EXPANDS FOR FBS FOOTBALL



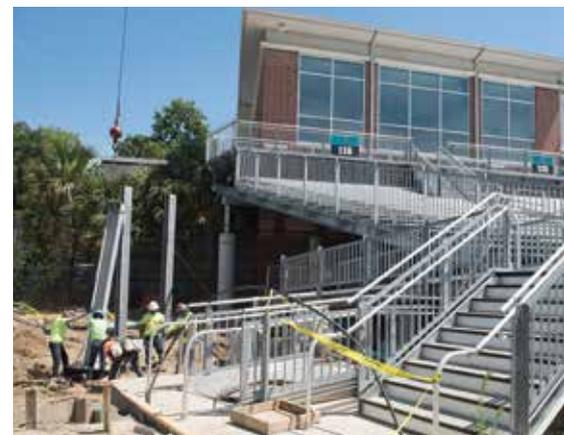
Coastal Carolina University's completed the first phase of the Brooks Stadium construction expansion with the addition of 5,800 seats, bringing the total capacity to 15,500—just in time for the Sept. 2 season opener against UMass Amherst, which the Chanticleers won 38-28.

Construction began in early March, with seats being added to connect both sides of the Athletic Field House, expanding the lower sections and the upper deck on the east side/press box side to match the lower deck.

Construction is expected to begin in December on Phase II, which will give Brooks Stadium a capacity of at least 20,000, including luxury suites, an upper deck on the west side, and a new entrance at the corner of S.C. 544 and University Boulevard.



Watch a time-lapse video of the construction at www.coastal.edu/magazine.





Class Notes

Cheney to lead CCU alumni relations

Julie Cheney has been named executive director of alumni relations at Coastal Carolina University. She replaces Jean Ann Brakefield, who has accepted a fundraising position within CCU's Office for Philanthropy and is responsible for the TEAL 1000 and faculty/staff giving initiatives. Cheney was previously the senior director of alumni relations at the University of Georgia.



Julie Cheney

"It is an honor to serve Coastal Carolina University as its executive director of alumni relations," Cheney said. "This is a transformational time for CCU, and it's clear this is an institution on the rise. I look forward to working with colleagues on campus, alumni here and across the country, and community partners to advance the Coastal mission."

A native of Athens, Ga., Cheney attended the University of Georgia, where she earned both a bachelor's degree in communication studies and a Master of Education. She has also completed Ph.D. coursework in human resource and organizational development at Georgia.

1973

Brenda Cordray Ziemba is seeking classmates from the Coastal Carolina nursing class of 1973. "We need a reunion!"

Elizabeth Robertson Huntsinger has joined the staff of Georgetown Times and South Strand News. She also conducts Ghosts of Georgetown Lantern Tours and is the author of *Ghosts of Georgetown, More Ghosts of Georgetown, Georgetown Mysteries and Legends* and *Waterline*.

1994

Mike Skipper recently finished his ninth season as the coach of Conway High School's varsity girls' softball team. He led the team to five consecutive state playoffs berths.

When Smith Barney merged with Morgan Stanley, she was named vice president and national training manager. In 2015, she moved to Fidelity Investments as senior director and product and project strategist. She started a clothing line in 2016 called Worn and Branded NYC. Greico lives in Ossining, N.Y., and has a second home in Surfside Beach. She visits the CCU campus often with her 6-year-old daughter Sophia.

1978

Tim Hardee, president of the South Carolina Technical College System, was the commencement speaker for spring commencement ceremonies at both Aiken Technical College and Orange-Calhoun Technical College.

1988

Tim Carlisle is the new president and CEO of Carolina Trust Federal Credit Union. Since joining Carolina Trust in 2010, he has served as 21st Avenue Myrtle Beach branch manager, vice president of lending and branch operations, and senior vice president/chief operations officer.

1999

Jonna Dougherty is an assistant principal at Loris Middle School. She previously served as the response to intervention/Title I coordinator at Bristow Elementary School in Bowling Green, Ky.

Tara Sparks Alford was recently named controller at Tradd Management in Myrtle Beach, where she oversees financial activity, procedures and quality control for the company's properties.

1980

Tony Cox has been appointed by Gov. Henry McMaster to serve as an interim commissioner for the South Carolina Department of Transportation. Cox is executive vice president at Burroughs & Chapin Company in Myrtle Beach. He previously served on the S.C. Real Estate Commission, Horry County Planning Commission and the Myrtle Beach Air Base Redevelopment Authority.

1992

J.J. Foster is the new head boys' basketball coach at South Side High School in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Jennifer Clack Hecht was recently featured by the Huffington Post as the founder of the Dating Advisory Board, an online service that helps singles learn dating techniques based on business strategies.

Karen Strawser Sanders moved to the Washington, D.C., area and is attending the Defense Language Institute to learn the Thai language. After the one-year program, she and her husband plan to move to Thailand for his assignment with the U.S. Air Force.

Joan Cribb has stepped down as the athletic director at Waccamaw High School in Pawleys Island. She had served in that position since 2002.

1993

Tony Dunkin was inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2017. He is the only basketball player in NCAA history to be named conference player of the year four times. Dunkin finished his career as CCU's all-time leading scorer.

Catherine J. Monteiro, of Louisville, Ky., has been appointed by Gov. Matt Bevin to serve on the Commonwealth of Kentucky Personnel Board.

2000

Lauren Greico has worked for the past 17 years on Wall Street in New York. She started as a financial adviser at Smith Barney.

2001

Jimmy Bailey has been promoted to the position of assistant principal at Carolina Forest High School. He previously served as a math teacher at Socastee High School.

Maurice Cobb has been promoted to the position of principal at Kensington Elementary School in Georgetown, S.C.

Matt Daly has been named regional operations manager for the Founders Group International's southern area golf courses, including Litchfield Country Club, Pawleys Plantation, River Club, Willbrook Plantation, TPC Myrtle Beach and Tradition Golf Club. He was previously the head professional at the golf clubs at Grande Dunes, Myrtlewood and Pine Lakes.

Seth Smith has been promoted by AmeriServ Bank to serve as area executive and senior vice president for Centre and Blair counties in Pennsylvania. He previously served as the vice president and commercial relationship manager in the bank's Altoona lending office.

Rob Spino is the new director of the Coastal Carolina University Veterans Association. He teaches physical education for Horry County Schools and is a teaching associate at CCU. Spino also serves his alma mater as a board member for the University College board of visitors and the CCU alumni association.

Brooke Weisbrod was inducted into the Big South Conference Hall of Fame in June 2017. She led CCU to two of its three Big South women's basketball championship game appearances. A college basketball analyst for ESPN, she was inducted into the CCU's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007.

2002

Brad Crumling has been named regional manager for the Founders Group International's central Grand Strand golf courses, including Burning Ridge, Myrtlewood, World Tour Golf Links, Myrtle Beach National, Wild Wing and Indian Wells. He was previously head golf professional at Myrtle Beach National.

Tayfun Karadeniz recently made a presentation to the Grand Strand Technology Council in which he joined other entrepreneurs in sharing their products. He is the founder of EmojiXpress, a mobile emoji app.

Larry Roberts was recently named the 2017 Subway Standout Coach. He started a basketball

league three years ago for middle school students, who compete in tournaments around Myrtle Beach.

2003

Tyler Hughes has retired from playing soccer after spending the last eight seasons with the Cowichan LMG soccer program in Lake Cowichan, British Columbia. His future plans include renewing the Cowichan club's U21 program.

Leslie DeLong Yurocko has been named director of learning and development at RevLocal in Granville, Ohio. She earned a master's degree in information science from Drexel University.

2004

Ashley Cameron has been promoted to the position of principal at Waccamaw Elementary School in Georgetown.

Dwayne and Katie Harris '08 own CrossFit Driving Formations in Myrtle Beach. Dwayne is also a lieutenant for the Myrtle Beach Fire Department, and Katie is a licensed massage therapist. They have two daughters, Reagan, 6, and Zoë, 3.

Ryan McGraw has been ranked by mlive.com as one of the top 25 high school baseball players from the state of Michigan during the last 25 years. While at CCU, the Saginaw Nouvel High School graduate set a national record with a 63-stolen base season and earned All-American honors. He also set Big South Conference career marks with 160 steals and 179 walks before being drafted by the San Diego Padres.

2005

Kelly Moore earned a master's degree in sports leadership from James Madison University and has been promoted to director of development for the Chanticleer Athletic Foundation at Coastal Carolina University.

2006

Kim Rothberg was a finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in

Mathematics and Science Teaching. She has been a fifth-grade teacher at Carolina Forest Elementary School for the past 10 years.

Jason Schipper recently married Lilli Stevens in Hallandale Beach, Fla. He is a high school teacher in Boca Raton, Fla.

2007

Shannon Cook is the new cultural arts program assistant for CCU's Thomas W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts. She assists with research and arranges travel accommodations for artists performing at the University. Cook previously worked with WMBF-TV.

Brittney '07, '10 and Tommy Pelfrey Jr. recently welcomed their second child, Grace Elizabeth Pelfrey. Tommy is the area car sales manager for Enterprise in Norfolk, Va., and Brittney is senior manager of business support for Blackbaud Inc. The family of four, including son Gavin, lives in Virginia Beach, Va.

Nick Pincolini recently relocated to Washington, D.C., and has accepted a position in development planning and feasibility with Marriott International's corporate headquarters.

2008

Katie Harris (See Class of 2004)

Mike McGrath has been named the foodservice business development manager for the mid-Atlantic region of Handy Seafood, a family-owned seafood processing company in Salisbury, Md. He previously worked for Waypoint Analytical in Richmond, Va., where he gained experience showing and selling the Handy product line.

Caroline P. Smith is the University editor at Coastal Carolina University. She previously worked at The Sun News in Myrtle Beach for seven years. She has one daughter, Lilly, 6, and is a member at Palmetto Pointe Church in Myrtle Beach.

2009

Carson Baker is the owner of Baker American Cycles in Fayetteville, N.C. He earned a 2016 Platinum Dealer Award from Indian Motorcycles.

Zack Byrd has qualified for the Sunshine Tour based in South Africa and has spent much of 2017 playing on the south end of the African continent. He ranked in the top 30 for the qualifying tournament at Randpark Golf Club in Randpark, South Africa.

**TELL US
ABOUT
IT**

Share your news with
TEAL NATION

Go to coastal.edu/magazine and
click on **Add Class Note**.



Class Notes

Joe Harris, former CCU men's basketball standout, is a patrol deputy with the Georgetown County Sheriff's Department.

Laura Keane has joined SAGE Eldercare as the new director of Spend-A-Day, an adult day health care program. A resident of Succasunna, N.J., she is a certified assisted living administrator. Keane most recently served as the executive director of Sunrise Senior Living of Madison, N.J.

Catherine McFaddin and Lee Mahoney were married April 8, 2017. She is a physical education teacher and coach for the Clarendon School District 2 in Manning, S.C.

Matt Moody married Martha Riviere Propst in May 2017 in Greenville, S.C. He is employed by Enterprise Holdings in Charleston.

2010

Tyler Anthony and **Kimberlee Ward** '13 married on June 2, 2017.

Jess Dennison (See Class of 2012)

Chris Hennecy is the new marketing and communications manager for the U.S. market for Filta Environmental Kitchen Solutions. He previously served as the director of marketing and communications for the BMW Car Club of America.

Nathan Craig Holloway joined Leitner, Williams, Dooley and Napolitan PLLC as an attorney in its Knoxville, Tenn., office.

Marianne Long is an education director at the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy, a nonprofit organization in North Chatham, Mass., that supports scientific research and promotes public safety.

 **Krisztina E. Szabo** is a staff attorney at Whitman-Walker Health, a medical-legal partnership in Washington, D.C., that specializes in LGBTQ and HIV health care. She helps clients on a variety of legal issues, including access to health care/public benefits, employment discrimination and immigration relief. Szabo was recognized as one of the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40 by the National LGBT Bar Associa-

tion. She earned her juris doctor degree from the Charleston School of Law and a Master of Laws from American University Washington College of Law.

Chris Wellsand has joined Valpo Parks Golf as a teaching professional at Creekside Golf Course and Training Center in Valparaiso, Ind. He has worked in the golf industry since 2002, most recently as the general manager at Aberdeen Golf Club in Longs, S.C.

Alex Wetherell has joined CresCom Bank of West Ashley in Charleston, S.C., as a credit analyst and bank officer. He previously served as the vice president and client development officer at Paragon Commercial Bank in Charlotte, N.C.

2011

Chris Adrian has been promoted to the position of manager of the Lib Jackson Student Union at Coastal Carolina University.

Andrew Emil Berks married Marian Bryce in May 2017 in Irmo, S.C. He is employed with State Farm in Fort Mill, S.C.

Amy Haggard recently earned a master's degree in student affairs in higher education from Colorado State University. She works at CCU's Office of Alumni Relations.

 **Shannon Klotsko** earned a Ph.D. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego in April 2017. She has received a Delta Science Fellowship for postdoctoral research from California Sea Grant at San Diego State University.

Zachary Loberger works as a commercial project manager in Houston, Texas. He and his wife Ashley welcomed their first child, Ian, in November 2016.

Roslyn Sakowitz has been promoted from sales representative to group sales manager at Kingston Resorts in Myrtle Beach.

Jake Webster is the certified athletic trainer for Darlington High School in Darlington, S.C. He also serves as an athletic training coordinator and

has been a member of the McLeod sports medicine team since 2014.

2012

Nick Carolla was recently named project manager at Miron Construction Co. Inc. in Middleton, Wis. He provides direct management and oversight of construction projects.

Kira Carter has been named an assistant coach with the women's basketball program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She previously coached at Missouri University of Science and Technology. Carter earned a master's degree in sports leadership from Duquesne University in August 2015.

McKenzie Cochran has been promoted to residential mortgage originator for SRP Federal Credit Union in Evans, Ga. He has been working at the company for more than five years, mostly in the mortgage division serving as the secondary marketing coordinator. Cochran is a member of the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce.

Sean Gilroy is a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps currently serving with 2d Battalion, 6th Marines out of Camp Lejeune, N.C. He and his wife **Amber Martin Gilroy** '13 recently welcomed a son, Cullen.

Joseph Hurley earned a master's degree in athletic training from Seton Hall University. He lives in Texas.

Lisa Anastasio Keays was recently inducted into the Tracy High School Sports Hall of Fame in Tracy, Calif. She was a three-sport athlete: volleyball, basketball and softball. Keays played softball for CCU and earned All Big-South Conference honors.

 **Shane Norris** and **Jess Dennison** '10 got engaged in front of the bronze statue of Chauncey at the entrance to the TD Sports Complex.

2013

Michael Giangregorio and **Ben Harris** '14 recently launched a

startup company, Nickel & Dime Supplement Club, an online provider of dietary supplements.

Amber Martin Gilroy (See Class of 2012)

Joscelyn Smalls married Jon Ford in May 2017 in Charleston, S.C. She is employed as a financial consultant.

Kimberlee Ward and **Tyler Anthony** '10 married on June 2, 2017.

2014

Daniela Corona and Justin Priddy were recently engaged in Charleston, S.C. She works as an admissions counselor for Coastal Carolina University.

Ben Harris (See Class of 2013)

2015

Dylan Cordaro and **Sara Adams** were married July 1, 2017, in Chazy, N.Y. Both are pursuing master's degrees at the University of Albany, Sarah in epidemiology and Dylan in social studies.

Julian 'Rhodes' Dickerson III and Macey Owens were married June 17, 2017, in Hemingway, S.C. He is a physical education teacher at Dewey L. Carter Elementary School in Florence and the head coach for the South Florence Bruins junior varsity baseball program.

Derek Fenstermacher opened the Indoor Golf & Training Center in York, S.C. The center offers instruction on all aspects of the game, equipment and apparel sales, and a golf simulator.

De'Angelo Henderson was drafted by the Denver Broncos in the sixth round of 2017 NFL Draft. He is CCU's all-time leading rusher and scorer.

Shane Kilduff is an account administrator at New Day Underwriting Managers in Hamilton, N.J. He previously worked at MB Associates and as a financial professional associate at Prudential Financial Group.

Nick McKinney is the curator of the Scarborough-Hamer collection at the Bertha Lee Strickland Cultural Museum in Seneca, S.C.

Alex Ross is a quarterback for the B.C. Lions of the Canadian Football League. He was signed by the Atlanta Falcons as an undrafted free agent and attended training camp with the club last season. He finished his career at CCU in 2015 as the school's all-time leader in passing yards, attempts, completions and touchdowns.

Carolyn Skews recently joined CresCom Bank of Myrtle Beach as a teller. She previously worked for Bay Naturals and Rooms to Go.

2016

Schuler Benson's fiction and poetry has appeared in *The Idle Class*, *Kudzu Review*, *The Pinch*, *Little Fiction*, *Hobart* and elsewhere. He has been nominated for a Best of the Net Award, a Million Writers Award and three Pushcart Prizes, and he placed second in *The Fallen Sky Review's* 2013 Speculative Fiction Launch Contest. His first book, *The Poor Man's Guide to an Affordable, Painless Suicide*, was a 2015 finalist for the Luminaire Award for Best Prose.

Bailey Cocca competed in the Fuccillo Kia Classic of New York, a Symetra Tour event at Capital Hills in June 2017. She is a professional golf assistant at Normanside Country Club in Delmar, N.Y.

Alex Cunningham was selected by the San Diego Padres in the ninth round of the 2017 Major League Baseball draft. He was 25-7 in 57 career games (46 starts) with a 3.06 ERA.

Jalacy Green volunteers as a throwing coach at her alma mater, Colleton County High School in Walterboro, S.C. She was a three-time SCHSL AAAA state champion in the shot put and discus, and the ESPN Gatorade Track and Field Athlete of the Year in 2012. Green serves as a case manager for the Colleton County Department of Social Services Foster Care.

Nicole Isaacs, U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class, graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio, Texas. She completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

Danielle Lafreniere is the guest services representative at MOXI, The Wolf Museum of Exploration + Innovation in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Shay Myers works for a defense arms company that is contracted with the U.S. government. After four months as a service desk analyst, he was promoted to IT asset manager analyst, dealing with software licensing and compliance.

Caitlin Raynor married Caleb Henley on Oct. 22, 2016, in China Grove, N.C. She is an animal caretaker-zookeeper at Tiger World Endangered Wildlife Preserve near China Grove.

Tom Saguto opened SagutoGolf at the International Club in Murrells Inlet, where he offers golf instruction and personal swing analysis.

Pvt. 1st Class Michael Spurduto graduated from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island on Aug. 18, 2017. He is pursuing an infantry career.

G.K. Young is a first baseman with the Fort Wayne (Ind.) TinCaps, a Class A affiliate of the San Diego Padres.

2017

Evan Broderick earned his real estate license and is now an agent for Realty Real Estate in New Jersey. He is a member of the Coastal Carolina University alumni association.



THE COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

“

Nancy and I are grateful for the community leaders who turned their dreams for a regional college into the reality that is CCU. We have been the beneficiaries of a wonderful community in which to work, live and raise our family. Too many of our students are graduating deep in debt. We have chosen to be part of the solution through endowing a Marine Science/Coastal Systems Graduate Fellowship. Over the years, our science professors have been expanding the founders' vision by doing research that is beneficial to solving local issues with far-reaching effects. We now have a graduate program that is multiplying those efforts and returning on the investments of all.”

– Douglas Nelson, Ph.D.
*professor emeritus of geology
and marine science*



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TOP TIER

CHANT CLEER



➤ FORWARD THINKING

By leveraging innovation and technology, Sigga Sigurdardottir '92 is revolutionizing the way the world banks.

by Jerry Rashid

THE POWER OF LOVE IS IRRESISTIBLE

Earning a marketing degree was not the primary reason Sigga Sigurdardottir '92 left her native Iceland to enroll at Coastal Carolina University. Her main motivation was to join her then-boyfriend Ludvik Bragason '92, one of many stellar Icelandic soccer players who crossed the North Atlantic on Coastal athletic scholarships in the 1980s. Soon, however, Sigurdardottir found her own field of achievement as a business student.

"Going from Iceland to Coastal was an incredible, eye-opening experience," said Sigurdardottir, CCU's first female Icelandic graduate. "It was a small school at the time that had a real community feel to it. It had quite an international body, too.

"I made connections with people from around the world. What

I also loved about Coastal was that I could take so many different classes. My passion is art, so I had the opportunity to mix in some art classes with my marketing classes."

An honors course taught by the late Col. Bill Baxley Jr. would have a major impact on Sigurdardottir's future life. One of the highlights of the class was a field trip to visit the Atlanta headquarters of such businesses as Coca-Cola, Chick-fil-A and Lockheed.

"That trip inspired me to think about what my career could look like and opened my eyes to international companies," Sigurdardottir said. "Coastal provided a really good platform to launch my international career."

DIGITAL CHANGE AGENT

The career trajectory for the magna cum laude graduate began when she returned to Reykjavik and served for six years as the head of marketing, sales and new business development at Independent Media Inc. Sigurdardottir spent 14 years climbing the corporate ladder at American Express International. She began as a regional senior manager of online customer experience and rose to the position of vice president/general manager in charge of e-commerce and digital distribution. Naturally curious with a keen interest in consumer technology, she was soon recognized as a trailblazing digital change agent as a result of her work in such places as Australia, Singapore, London and New York City.

“I started in American Express’ global digital division,” said Sigurdardottir, “building websites and communicating with customers using various digital channels. In my last role in New York, I worked in the emerging payments division. We were looking at the next generation of payment products, such as mobile wallets and other cardless ideas. It was an innovation unit charged with developing what would be the next generation of products and services.”

Since 2015, Sigurdardottir has lived in London, where she is the chief customer and innovation officer at Santander U.K., a financial services provider with approximately 14 million active customers in the U.K. and 125 million customers globally. She sits on the company’s executive committee and is charged with designing a customer-centric bank of the future. She leads a team of innovators who focus on delivering new solutions that solve real needs for customers throughout the U.K. The group also looks at how the bank can develop more speed and agility, reducing the amount of time it takes to launch new products.

“We work closely with startups and financial technology firms that might have better solutions for a specific customer problem that we have.” For example, in the small-business world it can take four weeks to get a working capital loan approved through the traditional bank processes.

“That is way too long to wait to get a decision on a loan,” she said. “It could mean death to a small business. We have a venture capitalist fund within Santander, called Innoventures, and I worked closely with that group to scan the world to find the best solution for this problem.”

Their search led them to an Atlanta-based company called Kabbage, which she touts as one of the big success stories in financial technology. “They launched this phenomenal solution in the U.S. where customers get loan decisions instantly and receive



Coastal’s Icelandic Pioneers: Coastal Icelandic students are recognized with a plaque in the early 1990s. (From left to right) Ulfar Helgason ’92, Arnar Arnarsson, Stefan Palsson ’92, Sigga Sigurdardottir ’92, former Coastal chancellor Ronald Eaglin, Ludvig Bragason ’92, Sveinn Palsson ’92 and Steve Nagle, distinguished emeritus professor of English.

the funds into their accounts within seven minutes. From our first meeting to getting a live solution for a closed customer group took seven months. Two months later, we had a full launch in the market, which is phenomenal speed for a bank.”

TOMORROW’S TECHNOLOGY

Sigurdardottir and her team are also partnering with next generation robo-advisory technology firms that leverage technology to transform the way people invest money. This technology has the potential to make investing more accessible to a much broader audience base, helping more people save for the future.

In addition, her team is collaborating with social media platforms on a pilot project to enable customers to access their bank account information directly from their social media feed.

“There is a big trend around social banking,” Sigurdardottir said. “Look at what’s happening in China with companies such as Alibaba that are revolutionizing banking on social media platforms. We also just launched a service called voice-driven banking. I believe voice features will be much more prevalent in the future. Think about Alexa, Amazon Echo’s virtual assistant, and how many things you can do through that platform already. Because you can use your voice instead of typing, our new mobile app allows you to get your account balance or to make a payment.

“A lot of things are happening with artificial intelligence and big data that will help deliver better solutions for customers, who are always at the center of what we do. You can launch the most amazing technology, but if your customers don’t like it or are not adapting to it, you have to figure out a way to marry the two things together.”



Chanticleers Abroad: During the Wall Fellows' Maymester 2017 study abroad trip, the group learned about various banking strategies and innovations during an exclusive presentation by Sigga Sigurdardottir '92 (center) at Santander U.K. (From left) Peter Gasca, director of the Wall College's CoBE Institute, Wall Fellows Ross Kunmann, Mickayla Smith, Kaylea Gassaway-Rea, Joshua Stilley, Sigurdardottir, Emilie-Katherine Tavernier, Sean Edwards, Myles Anderson, Wall Fellows Program director Gina Cummings, and Juan Guerra of the Santander U.K. innovation team.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Sigurdardottir's decision to follow Bragason to Coastal turned out to be one of the best decisions of her life, both professionally and personally. The two CCU graduates married in November 1997. Thirteen years later, the couple's lives became even more international when they adopted siblings, Alexander, now 10, and Diana, 9, from Russia.

"We have been living in London for about two years, but the kids still have a bit of a Brooklyn accent," said Sigurdardottir, who is now pursuing a doctorate in business administration from Alliance Manchester Business School in the U.K. "Because they were there during their formative years, they have very strong ties to New York and the U.S. But London is a good base for us since we go back to visit our families in Iceland once or twice a year. We are still very connected to Iceland."

Sigurdardottir and Bragason, who developed into an All-Big South Conference midfielder for the Chanticleers, are proud members of the Icelandic Whales Alumni Association, CCU's only international alumni organization. The association has more than 80 members and funds a scholarship for Icelanders to attend CCU. The couple is committed to helping keep the Coastal-Iceland connection going strong, in the hope that their compatriots will discover and benefit from the Coastal Carolina University experience as they did.

"My entire time at Coastal was absolutely wonderful," said Sigurdardottir. "It was a fantastic, life-changing cultural and educational experience." ■



Coastal Couple: Ludvik Bragason '92 and Sigga Sigurdardottir '92 with their children, Alexander and Diana.

Women in Philanthropy and Leadership for Coastal Carolina University presents

the **8th** *annual*
**Women's Leadership
Conference**
& Celebration of Inspiring Women



Conference speakers include:



Barbara Pierce Bush
Humanitarian;
co-founder and president,
Global Health Corps



Jenna Hager
Best-selling author;
correspondent, NBC's Today;
editor-at-large,
Southern Living Magazine

February 5-6, 2018

Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel
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February 5: Celebration of Inspiring Women (evening event)

February 6: Women's Leadership Conference featuring the new
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Conference.*

For sponsorship or exhibitor information, email agravelly@coastal.edu or call 843.349.5033.

Visit WIPLconference.com to see the full list of this year's speakers.



Amy Haggard '11, Sarah Craig '13



Cindy Baum



Lori White '91, Wayne White '92



Chris Wilkinson '10, Bailey Turner '15, Alicia Moorhead '10, Preston Moorhead '10

Regina Ward '91



BOOTS AND BRONZE

The inaugural Boots and Bronze event was held at the Conway Farmers Market on March 24. Alumni and friends enjoyed a barbecue buffet, craft beer tasting, music by Southern Blue and a reverse raffle. Proceeds supported the CCU Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund.



David Page '14, Jennifer Page '11



Robert Spino '00, Ramona Mona



Back row, from left: Jean Ann Brakefield '84, Kevin Cox '01, Jennifer Page '11, Wayne White '92, Sherry Johnson '96, Brian Forbus '97, Kayla Johnson '06; Front row, from left: Brianna Melton '10, Sarah Craig '13, Amy Haggard '11, Travis Dannelly '06, Regina Ward '91



Gwen Cox, Kevin Cox '01

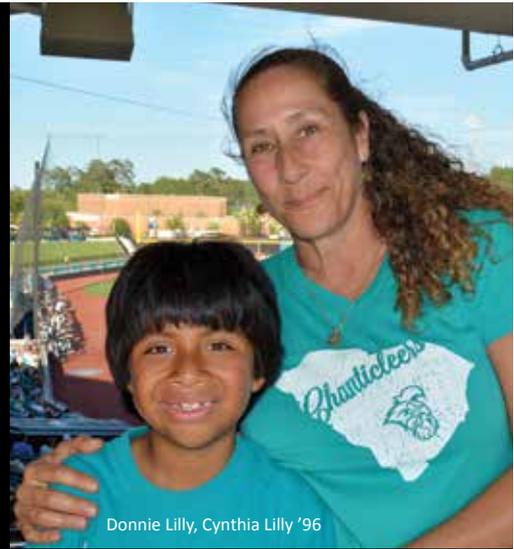


Timothy McElreath, Amy Marflake

CCU BASEBALL ALUMNI EVENT



Kayla Johnson '06, Brianna Melton '10



Donnie Lilly, Cynthia Lilly '96



Doris Ford, Woodrow Ford '05

CHEER FOR THE CHANTICLEERS

Local alumni and friends cheered for the Chanticleer baseball team during an alumni event held on the balcony of Springs Brooks Stadium on May 19.



Joanna Mannon,
Pete Liscombe '11



Thomas Fox, Lynn Fox '03, Kaitlyn Fox



Ramon DeAbreu, Jennifer Almodovar '17



Kristi Forbus,
Brian Forbus '97,
Cole Forbus, Gigi Forbus



Abigail Carson, Scott Porter, Caitlin White, Candace Hamilton '13,
Cacy Goetz, Harmony Kensinger '13



EVENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. ALUMNI EVENT



Matthew Horne '05, Christopher McCullagh '16



Sara Jacobsen '09, Sam Zimmerman



Brent Whelan '98, Mark Evanko '09, Christopher McCullagh '16



Avant Pradhan '08, Molly Cunningham Pradhan, President David A. DeCenzo



Jarred Masterson '12, Brooke Masterson '11

NETWORKING IN D.C.

CCU alumni and friends from the Washington, D.C., area gathered for a great evening of networking at Boqueria on June 1.



Treda Smith Grayson '99, Thomas Squire '11, Dan Jolles '10



Jessica Jubran '16, Terri DeCenzo, Kaitlyn Bailey '15



Avant Pradhan '08, Marissa Mitzner '08, Brent Whelan '98



Allison Miller '05, Matthew Miller '05



Michael Sanders, Karen Sanders '00, Chris Attridge '09, Kathryn Attridge

GREENVILLE ALUMNI EVENT



Laura Pinciario, Sophia Vickery '16



LaVar Williams '06, Jadamion Ross '15



McKenzie Lane '14,
Alex Rutherford



Jessica Grella '10,
Frank Grella '15,
Kennedy Grella

UP ON THE ROOF

Greenville-area alumni and friends mingled and enjoyed the views from Up on the Roof at the Embassy Suites on June 22. The event was made extra special thanks to the efforts of Jessica Grella '10 and Jennifer Hawkins '01, who hold management positions at the venue.



Jacorey Baker '15, Donsheata Durant '15



President David A. DeCenzo,
Jennifer Hawkins '01



Cam Freeman '11, Kyle Sweeney '14, Kaitlyn Hanzl '15



Jason Chevallard '95, Richard Dotson '93, Billy Crawford '94



Hunter Pickens '10, Kelly Polonus '10,
Aaron Dodge '08



Robert West '10



Brittni Pemleton,
Kirsten Costello '12

CHANTS IN CHARLOTTE

Charlotte-area alumni and friends braved the wind and cool temperatures during a reception at a Charlotte Knights baseball game at BB&T Ballpark on April 6.



Shana Ernst '12,
Lindsey Weintraub '13

Quinton Teal '07, Janelle Teal, Robert Zapata '07, AJ Rodriguez '07



Kevin Hennessy '14, Darbie Kelley '15

CHARLOTTE ALUMNI EVENT



Phil Costantini '16, Joanna Costantini



Mike Pruitt '84



Tony Maria '09,
Jackson Long '05



Keely Green, Kaelyn Green, Pete Green '00, Jaime Green '03



Chris Noble '08, Cindy Motta



STANDING: Robert Zapata '07, AJ Rodriguez '07, Tony Maria '09, Aaron Dodge '08, Quinton Teal '07, Chris Noble '08, Robert West '10, Hunter Pickens '10, Jackson Long '05, Phil Costantini '16, Shana Ernst '12, Pete Green '00. FRONT: Kelly Polonus '10, Kirsten Costello '12, Lindsey Weintraub '13, Karen Garwacki '04



GIVING

Tennis complex named for Stevenses



Lynn '81 and Delan '77 Stevens

The Delan and Lynn Stevens Tennis Complex at Coastal Carolina University was officially dedicated during a ribbon-cutting ceremony back in April. The Stevenses made a generous donation to the University in support of the facility, which serves as home of the Chanticleers' men's and women's tennis programs.

Delan and Lynn graduated from Coastal in 1979 and 1981, respectively. He has been a member of the University's

board of trustees since 2015. In 2010, he was named CCU's Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. She served on the CCU Student Housing Foundation board from 2003 to 2015.

"Coastal has meant an awful lot to Delan and me," said Lynn Stevens, "not only in the education we received but in the friendships we formed while we were both in school that have carried throughout our lifetimes."

Delan Stevens added, "It's a privilege for us to be able to do this. Coastal afforded us a lot more than just an opportunity to play tennis. If it hadn't been for the education we received from Coastal and the support from staff at the time, we probably wouldn't have been able to do things like this. It's been an honor and a privilege to serve."

The complex first opened on Jan. 31, 2015. It consists of 12 U.S. Open-style courts and is surrounded by bleachers and rocking chairs. The facility also includes lighting, two LED scoreboards, a state-of-the-art speaker system, a press box, equipment storage areas, concessions, restrooms and a 3,000-square foot clubhouse with offices, locker rooms and a lounge.

Cave donates to Social Justice Research Initiative



Nancy Cave

Nancy Cave of Georgetown has made a donation to support the Social Justice Research Initiative (SJRI) in the College of Science at Coastal Carolina University. The gift supports the University's I'M IN endowment campaign, which has a goal of increasing CCU's endowment \$20 million by 2020.

Formed in 2012, the SJRI promotes community-based research, experiential learning, community service projects and social change. The endowed program funds will provide resources to enhance SJRI's three core components of education, research and action.

"I hope the SJRI will create a group of involved and committed people who will bring about change at the local, state and national level," Cave said. "I have been working on

social justice issues for the last 15 years, and I think it is critically important that young people learn to protect and defend those without a voice and those who have been silenced. The social justice initiative will help them learn how to give voice through advocacy and policy to those who are not heard."

By focusing on the causes, processes, structures, and consequences of inequality and social justice in action, the SJRI emphasizes a universitywide curricular program designed to educate and empower agents of social change.

Cave is in her fifth year as a member of the College of Science's board of visitors. She recently retired after serving for 15 years as the north coast office director of the Coastal Conservation League, an environmental advocacy organization headquartered in Charleston. She previously worked in marketing and communications at Citicorp, NationsBank, and Dun & Bradstreet. She started her career in radio and television in Chicago.

Late alumnus created melanoma foundation

Parents donate sunscreen products to CCU



Bob and Candi Caress

Just three years after starring on the men's tennis team and graduating magna cum laude from Coastal Carolina University in 2007, Andy Caress lost his 22-month battle with melanoma. Today, the Andy Caress Melanoma Foundation, which Andy founded before his death in August 2010, is committed to raising awareness about this deadly disease.

Andy's parents, Bob and Candi Caress of Cincinnati, Ohio, have donated a significant quantity of sunscreen products to the Chanticleer Athletic Foundation. The delivery included 12 one-gallon and 25 half-gallon jugs with pump dispensers and roughly 10,000 individual packets. The products are being made available to Coastal student-athletes and were also distributed to summer Orientation attendees.

According to his parents, Andy loved the outdoors and competing in all types of sports. He started playing tennis around the age of 5 and eventually became the No. 4 singles player for the Chanticleer men's tennis team. The Caresses have made a commitment to the University to name Court 4 at the Stevens Tennis Complex in their son's memory.

"So much of Andy is at Coastal Carolina University," said Candi Caress. "Having a court named after him will be a lasting reminder for people to protect their skin, be aware of the benefits of sunscreen and check for moles. To have him commemorated in that way will be wonderful."

"Coastal Carolina University was a special place to Andy, and it's a special place to us," said Bob Caress. "He absolutely loved it here. He had a ferocious will to win. Once he got to Coastal, he grew tremendously in terms of talent and work ethic. He also was a great student and a joy to be around."

The Andy Caress Melanoma Foundation is dedicated to the prevention of melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer, through awareness, education and support of research to find a cure.



I am proud of the support that Marian and I have given to Coastal and to be a part of the rapid growth we have seen for the last 27 years. As a trustee, I feel it is important to be a leader in financial giving and support of our school."

— Larry Lyles

Member, CCU board of trustees



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2017 COASTAL CHANTIC



COASTAL
CHAMPIONS



C A R O L I N A U N I V E R S I T Y

WHEELER BASKETBALL



All dates subject to change.

*Sun Belt Conference

MEN'S HOME GAMES

- NOV. 10 vs. **PIEDMONT INTERNATIONAL**
- NOV. 22 vs. **ST. ANDREWS**
- NOV. 29 vs. **WOFFORD**
- DEC. 2 vs. **LAMAR**
- DEC. 16 vs. **MONTREAT COLLEGE**
- DEC. 18 vs. **WAKE FOREST**
- DEC. 22 vs. **COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON**
- DEC. 29 vs. **TEXAS-ARLINGTON***
- DEC. 31 vs. **TEXAS STATE***
- JAN. 11 vs. **GEORGIA SOUTHERN***
- JAN. 13 vs. **GEORGIA STATE***
- JAN. 25 vs. **ARKANSAS STATE***
- JAN. 27 vs. **LITTLE ROCK***
- FEB. 10 vs. **APPALACHIAN STATE***
- FEB. 15 vs. **TROY***
- FEB. 17 vs. **SOUTH ALABAMA***

WOMEN'S HOME GAMES

- NOV. 10 vs. **LEES-MCRAE**
- NOV. 14 vs. **UNC GREENSBORO**
- NOV. 18 vs. **UNC WILMINGTON**
- NOV. 20 vs. **ALLEN**
- NOV. 30 vs. **COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON**
- DEC. 4 vs. **FORT WAYNE**
- DEC. 8 vs. **NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL**
- DEC. 20 vs. **WOFFORD**
- DEC. 29 vs. **TEXAS-ARLINGTON***
- DEC. 31 vs. **TEXAS STATE***
- JAN. 11 vs. **GEORGIA SOUTHERN***
- JAN. 13 vs. **GEORGIA STATE***
- JAN. 25 vs. **ARKANSAS STATE***
- JAN. 27 vs. **LITTLE ROCK***
- FEB. 10 vs. **APPALACHIAN STATE***
- FEB. 15 vs. **TROY***
- FEB. 17 vs. **SOUTH ALABAMA***

For full schedule, visit GoCCUsports.com.

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